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ABSTRACT

The report presents a profile of poverty groups, based on characteristics of household heads, which could be useful in formulating and evaluating assistance programs for the poor. Rural households in the Coastal Plain of northeastern South Carolina were grouped into 5 mutually exclusive categories determined by the age, disability, and sex of the household head: (1) households with heads 65 years and older, (2) households with disabled heads less than 65 years old, (3) households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64 years, (4) households with able-bodied male heads less than 45 years old, and (5) households with able-bodied female heads less than 65 years old. Resulting categories of the poor were examined to evaluate their needs and to determine their potential for income improvement through self-help programs of public assistance. One-half of the poor households, containing two-thirds of all income-deprived youth in the study area, were headed by able-bodied, working males. Assistance programs designed to lessen the impact of poverty among rural youth must be oriented to this target group. Most heads, particularly the younger ones, were willing to train, change jobs, and move from the area, if necessary, to get better pay. The remaining productive years of this group warrant public investment to improve skills and other income-producing resources. (Author/LS)

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A PROFILE OF THE RURAL POOR
IN THE
NORTHEASTERN COASTAL PLAIN
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
IN COOPERATION WITH
SOUTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

This report presents a profile of poverty groups, based on characteristics of household heads, which could be useful in formulating and evaluating assistance programs for the poor. Rural households in the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina were grouped into five mutually exclusive categories determined by the age, disability, and sex of the household head:

(1) Households with heads 65 years of age and older.

(2) Households with disabled heads less than 65 years of age.

(3) Households with able-bodied male heads 45-64 years of age.

(4) Households with able-bodied male heads less than 45 years of age.

(5) Households with able-bodied female heads less than 65 years of age.

The resulting categories of the poor were examined for purposes of evaluating their needs and determining their potential for income improvement through self-help programs of public assistance. Half of the poor households, containing two-thirds of all income-deprived youth in the study area, were headed by able-bodied, working males. Assistance programs designed to lessen the impact of poverty among rural youth must be oriented to this target group. Most heads, particularly the younger ones, were willing to train, change jobs, and move from the area, if necessary, to get better pay. The remaining productive years of this group warrants public investment to improve their skills and other income producing resources.

Key Words: Household heads, disabled, elderly, female, male; human resources; income-deprivation; poor; poverty; profile; rural.

Washington, D.C. 20250

April 1971

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PREFACE

This is the fourth in a series of reports based on a study of human resources in the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina. The first report, based on preliminary county data, was published to provide advance information to local groups (4)*. In the second report, household characteristics, including family income, race, age, health, education, employment, aspirations and other attributes of the entire rural population, were presented. In it, some of the area's major problems were revealed (3). The third report, examining part-time farming as a means of improving incomes in the area, found such farming to be an economically feasible adjustment, provided a sufficient number of nonfarm jobs are available (1).

This report analyzes the problems of low-income rural households in the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina and examines poverty there from the viewpoint of the household head's potential for income improvement. The poor were separated into groups based on the age and sex of the household head and the presence or absence of a disability. Examination of the salient characteristics of these groups provides a profile of the rural poor that should present an improved basis for understanding the nature of rural poverty in the study area. It should also be useful in both formulating and appraising public programs of assistance to the poor.

The parent research project of which this study is a part was supported by funds from the Office of Economic Opportunity. The opinions and conclusions of this report do not necessarily reflect the policy or views of OEO.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors express appreciation to colleagues in the Economic Development Division, Economic Research Service, USDA, for their assistance in planning the study and coordinating it with similar studies being conducted on other regions. We are also grateful for the assistance of collegues in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, Clemson University, who reviewed the manuscript and made helpful suggestions.

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*Numbers in parenthesis refer to Literature Cited, p. 70.

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SUMMARY

The heads of rural poor households in the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina are usually the working poor. All able-bodied male heads were in the labor force at the time of the study (1966), with only 1 percent unemployed. No household headed by an able-bodied man under 45 received welfare assistance -- despite per capita incomes averaging under $300 a year. Among the disabled, two-thirds of household heads were employed and work income comprised three-fifths of total income of households headed by the disabled. Even among the elderly, a fourth of heads were employed. For all the poor, four-fifths of total household income came from work.

Programs of assistance to these families must differentiate broadly between (a) cases where the individual's employment and earnings potential warrants public investment to improve skills and other income-producing resources, and (b) cases where the potential for self-help is so limited that welfare and other direct payments appear to be a more efficient alternative.

One group for whom the second approach seems indicated is the elderly poor, who headed a fifth of the poor households. Sixty-three percent of elderly poor households were Negro.

The elderly poor (aged 65 or older) received 70 percent of their income from nonwork sources -- mainly retirements or compensations, plus some welfare. Had all rural elderly households depended on such income, most would have been poor.

The characteristics that influence income in the younger and generally more productive years -- education, occupation, ownership of income-producing assets -- also appeared to determine the degree of economic well-being among the elderly. This emphasizes the need to help younger people acquire the skills and earn the income needed to provide for their older years.

The elderly poor probably cannot improve their incomes through increased employment. Increased social security, old age assistance, or other types of transfer payments are probably the only feasible means. The large number of dependent grandchildren in these households poses special problems concerning eligibility requirements for welfare aid to dependent children.

Slightly less than a fifth of the poor households had a disabled head under 65. More than half the poor households headed by a disabled person were Negro.

Although most of the income received by the disabled poor was from work sources, their handicaps limit somewhat their prospects for better employment opportunities. More than a third of these households -- mostly headed by women -- did not contain a spouse of the head. Where a spouse was present, two out of five were also disabled. Thus, more than three out of five poor households with a disabled head did not contain an able-bodied spouse.

Among the disabled heads, less than a third would take training courses and change jobs for better pay, and only one out of five would move from the

area for this purpose. Many of those willing to train had serious educational handicaps. About half the spouses would take training and accept a job if one were available. The scarcity of able-bodied spouses, however, along with the reluctance of heads to leave the area, dims the prospects for substantial income improvement through increased employment of spouses and highlights the emerging importance of welfare and other possible transfer payments. Since nearly half the disabled heads were under 55, however, vocational counseling and rehabilitation to encourage training and labor force participation may be needed.

More than half of all rural poor households had able-bodied male heads under 65; the majority of these were under 45. About four-fifths were Negroes. Practicially all these heads were employed -- the greater part of them as farm laborers and sharecroppers. Few of their spouses had paying jobs, and those who did were principally farm laborers and domestics. Poor households headed by able-bodied men under 65 had uniformly low incomes, averaging less than $2,000. Their incomes were almost entirely from work sources. Because of the large size of household, averaging more than six persons, income per capita typically ranged between $200 and $400 a year.

These households were ineligible for welfare and most other types of public assistance. Yet they contained two-thirds of all deprived youth in the area.

Among abled-bodied males over 45, only half would change jobs and only one out of three would leave the area. Most men under 45, and their spouses, would train for a better job; two out of three would move from the area. Training and job placement will be handicapped, however, by the extremely low level of schooling of most potential trainees.

The burden of low income among able-bodied female household heads was most severe among women under 45, mostly Negroes. Their households averaged nearly six dependent children. Most of the women were employed. Few received any welfare assistance. Incomes per capita were under $200 a year.

Most of these women would take job training and change jobs for better pay. Few, however, would move from the immediate area, reflecting their likely economic reliance on family and friends. Most lived rent free in farm housing and worked as farm laborers and domestics -- enabling them to be near, and supervise, young children. Also, it could permit children to work seasonally in agriculture. Were it not for local farm work and domestic service, these women might not be in the work force.

Direct income supplements may be the only feasible means of financially assisting many of the households headed by females under 45. Training and job placement services, combined with day care centers for children, might serve to increase the earnings of some, however.

Because the size of all poor households headed by the young and able-bodied averaged more than six persons, it is doubtful that even the most optimistic goals of income improvement through increased employment could raise some families above the poverty level. Smaller family size may be a prerequisite to escape from poverty.

A PROFILE OF THE RURAL POOR

In the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina

By

Jackson V. McElveen and Buddy L. Dillman 1/

BACKGROUND

The national commitment to combat poverty seeks to help people by providing them with the opportunity to help themselves. Poverty, however, is not a monolithic problem of people with too little income; it has varied components. The poor include the aged, the physically and mentally disabled, the jobless, the fatherless families with young children. The heads of poor households may include the lazy or indolent. But for the most part, these heads are the working poor -- those who lacked the opportunity or failed to acquire the skills needed in an increasingly complex society and those who, for a variety of other reasons, are unable to earn sufficient income to provide an adequate level of living for their families.

Poverty, in its complexity, is related to practically every aspect of the lives of the families and individuals involved -- the size of family, their ages, educations, training, health, attitudes, aspirations, and material possessions. These are commonly referred to as poverty-linked characteristics. While the degree of association between these characteristics and poverty varies with time, geographic location, and individual circumstances, the body of previous research, buttressed by logic, leaves little doubt that the associations exist.

The exact causes of poverty, however, are difficult to identify for a number of reasons. Many factors contributing to income are difficult to measure -- such things as inheritances, windfalls, opportunity, poor or good fortune, the psyche of the individual, and his ability to adjust to the demands of the environment. Also, many of the more measurable human characteristics related to income are interrelated. For example, education is related to income, as are age, health, occupation, race, and net worth. But education is also related to age and race, for example. Furthermore, some income-related characteristics are likely to result from the level of income in a previous time period.

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Multivariate analysis is also of limited value in explaining the causes of poverty on an area basis. 2/ This underlies the growing tendency for social scientists to attribute cause to a poverty cycle, in which material and cultural deprivation in one generation breeds a new generation of poverty.

Programs to help the poor, however, must be based on recognition that (1) the potential for self help is so limited among some families and individuals that welfare and other direct payments would appear to be a more efficient alternative, while (2) among others the employment and earnings potential warrents public investment to improve skills and other income-producing resources.

The characteristics that limit an individual's income-earning capacity fall logically into two general types: (1) those related to physical limitations of advanced age, disability, and sex, which are not amenable to change, and (2) those subject to modification through programs of education and training. These latter characteristics are largely the skills and attitudes of the individual.

The two types of characteristics are not mutually exclusive. The capacity of the individual for change is tempered by the combination of his physical and acquired characteristics. Physical limitations, for example, may be modified by education and attitudes. Thus, the solutions to many problems of poverty will involve mixtures of welfare and self-help assistance. General classification on the basis of physical characteristics, however, is believed useful for defining the wide latitude of the problem and indicating courses of public action.

Race was not considered to be a limiting factor even though, of course, it is a characteristic not amenable to change. Any adverse effects associated with racial differentiation are considered to be amenable to change. In view of the large proportion of Negroes among the poor of the Coastal Plain, however, the effects of racial discrimination should be recognized in the design of programs of public assistance for this area, as well as for any others with similar characteristics. There may also be instances where imagined discrimination could have effects that would need to be recognized and dealt with in a similar manner.

Sex was considered a physical limitation in that certain occupations requiring physical strength are generally closed to women. This is not to ignore the fact that this sex limitation is at least partially attributable to sex discrimination, which is, like racial discrimination, amenable to change.

Specific Objectives

In view of the foregoing, this study had the following specific objectives:

2/ In one such analysis, income was regressed on 8 characteristics -- age, marital status, color, residence, region, weeks worked, occupation, and education. It was found that these variables accounted for only 35 percent of the variation in individual income (7). (Underscored numbers in parentheses refer to Literature Cited, p. 70.)

(1) To categorize the poor according to the physcial capabilities of the household head for self-help as indicated by age, disability, and sex.

(2) To examine the socioeconomic characteristics of persons in the resulting categories, determine the problems peculiar to each group, and discern the selective measures of assistance needed.

The categories that follow standardize the poor on the basis of the physical characteristics of age, disability, and sex of the household head:

(1) Household heads 65 and older.

(2) Disabled household heads under 65.

(3) Able-bodied male household heads aged 45-64.

(4) Able-bodied male household heads under 45.

(5) Able-bodied female household heads under 65.

It was believed that these categories would lessen the interrelationships between physical and acquired characteristics, and that the resulting profile of the poor would provide a better basis for appraising both their problems and the alternative measures of assistance needed. It is hoped that the study will promote better understanding of the nature of income deprivation in the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina and provide a useful guide to public administrators and others engaged in formulating programs of assistance to the poor.

The Study Area and Sample

A study was made in 1966 of a random sample of approximately 1,000 rural households in 10 counties of the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, comprising 1.73 percent of all rural households in the 10 counties. 3/ These counties were Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Horry, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, and Williamsburg. Rural households were those located outside the corporate limits or urban fringe of towns of 2,500 or more population in 1960. Because of a basic difference in the definition of rural households, estimates derived from expansion of survey data are not fully comparable with data obtained from the 1960 and 1970 Censuses of Population and Housing.

The study area is part of the broad Coastal Plain Region of the Carolinas and Georgia. Typical of much of the region, it is highly agricultural, specializing in tobacco, cotton, and soybeans. Production of cotton and soybeans has undergone almost complete mechanization. Tobacco is still a heavy user of farm labor, but reduced acreage, along with increasing mechanization, has

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3/ Multiplying the sample numbers by the expansion factor of 57.7 will give an estimate of the area totals for the households from which the sample was drawn. For a discussion of sampling variability, along with a table of standard errors, see app., p. 71.

substantially reduced farm labor needs; further labor-saving innovations are imminent. The need for occupational adjustments on the part of farm people is chronic.

Nonfarm industrial growth has been insufficient to provide job alternatives for youth entering the labor force and those desiring to shift from farm to nonfarm occupations. As a result, intensive out-migration has taken place. Outmigration has been greatest among young adults and Negroes.

National recognition of problems of low income and underemployment in the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina and other areas of the Atlantic Coastal Plain Region, led to the creation in 1967 of the Coastal Plain Economic Development Region, with a Regional Commission to develop and implement a program of economic development. The Departments of Agriculture; Health, Education, and Welfare; Labor; and Housing and Urban Development; and the Office of Economic Opportunity, in cooperation with State and local governmental agencies, have ongoing programs of public assistance in the study area. Manpower training, subsidized housing, food stamps, "head start" schooling, free school lunches -- these current programs are specifically directed to needs of the poor. Proposed legislation before Congress, setting forth a minimum family income guarantee, would substantially modify existing welfare programs.

It is within the context of these current and proposed programs of public assistance to the poor that this study assumes significance. Although the data presented are for 1965 and 1966, many of the characteristics of the poor people studied -- low education levels, disability, limited job experience and income-producing resources -- remain major problems.

The Measure of Income Deprivation

An estimated 55 percent of the rural households in the study area had total incomes from all sources of less than $3,000 in 1965. This figure has frequently been used to denote the threshold of poverty. Use of $3,000 to delineate a measure of income adequacy, however, is not only arbitrary, but also fails to distinguish between the variety of family situations that determine need -- the most obvious of these being size of family. Most studies by home economists and others to determine minimum income needs are based on size of family.

To obtain a better measure of income deprivation than that provided by income alone, five categories of relative need based on household size and income were developed (table 1). The categories were developed jointly with researchers working on related studies in other regions for the purpose of coordinating research efforts and providing interregional comparisons. Orshansky's estimates (5) of minimum income needs by size of family were used as a guide in making these groupings. Although the range in the frequency distribution of income does not permit absolute precision in the groupings, they are believed to be an improvement over simple groups by income.

Table 1.--Household size-income class: Relative income deprivation based on relationship of income to household size 1/

Household income	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Total
	Criteria for establishing classes					
$0-$999	2 or more persons	1 person	---	---	---	---
$1,000-$1,999	5 or more persons	2-4 persons	1 person	---	---	---
$2,000-$2,999	9 or more persons	4-8 persons	2 or 3 persons	1 person	---	---
$3,000-$4,999	---	8 or more persons	4-7 persons	2 or 3 persons	1 person	---
$5,000-$7,499	---	---	9 or more persons	4-8 persons	1-3 persons	---
$7,500-$9,999	---	---	---	6 or more persons	1-5 persons	---
$10,000 and over	---	---	---	9 or more persons	1-8 persons	---
	Number of households					
$0-$999	128	38	--	--	--	166
$1,000-$1,999	91	99	15	--	--	205
$2,000-$2,999	25	80	61	11	--	177
$3,000-$4,999	--	26	91	60	7	184
$5,000-$7,499	--	--	--	81	56	137
$7,500-$9,999	--	--	--	13	49	62
$10,000 and over	--	--	--	--	71	71
Total	244	243	167	165	183	1,002
	Percentage distribution of households					
$0-$999	52.5	15.6	--	--	--	16.6
$1,000-$1,999	37.3	40.7	9.0	--	--	20.5
$2,000-$2,999	10.2	32.9	36.5	6.7	--	17.6
$3,000-$4,999	--	10.7	54.5	36.4	3.8	18.4
$5,000-$7,499	--	--	--	49.1	30.6	13.6
$7,500-$9,999	--	--	--	7.9	26.8	6.2
$10,000 and over	--	--	--	--	38.8	7.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Relative income deprivation classes: Class 1--seriously deprived; Class 2--deprived; Class 3--marginal; Class 4--probably not deprived; Class 5--definitely not deprived.

Source: Developed jointly by agricultural economists and rural sociologists working on related studies in the following regions: Coastal Plain, South Carolina; Delta, Mississippi and Louisiana; Ozarks, Arkansas and Missouri. These categories grew out of the need to define income deprivation more precisely than provided by income alone and for uniformity in making comparisons of data by regions.

The Extent of Income Deprivation

Even allowing for many imperfections in the method of classifying these households, there is little doubt that income deprivation is a serious problem in nearly half of all households in the study area. Taken together, households in class 1 (seriously deprived) and class 2 (deprived) accounted for 49 percent of rural households. More than a third of the households in these two classes had total household incomes of less than $1,000; nearly four out of five had incomes of less than $2,000. These households contained 57 percent of the rural population and nearly two-thirds of the rural youth under 20 years of age (3).

Households in classes 1 and 2 were taken to represent the poor. The number and proportion of income-deprived households in each category based on age, disability, and sex of household heads are shown in figure 1. Households with elderly heads made up a fifth of the poor households. An additional fifth of poor households had heads who, although under 65, were partially or totally disabled. Households headed by able-bodied males comprised about half -- a fifth had heads 45-64 years of age and a third were headed by males under 45. Households headed by able-bodied females under 65 comprised the remaining 9 percent.

In the sections that follow, the examination of family and household characteristics of these categories constitutes a profile of the poor.

RURAL HOUSEHOLDS WITH HEADS AGED 65 OR OLDER

Nearly a fifth (18 percent) of all rural households in the study area were headed by a person 65 years of age or older. Of these households, nearly three-fifths (57 percent) were income-deprived (classes 1 and 2). These comprised more than a fifth of income-deprived households in the study area.

More than half of these deprived households had total family incomes from all sources of less than $1,000 (table 5). Fewer than one out of 10 had incomes of as much as $2,000. The average income from all sources was $1,231 (table 6). Income per capita was $394.

Thirty-seven percent of the elderly poor were white and 63 percent, Negro. Men headed 64 percent of the households. The incidence of income deprivation among older heads was greater among Negro than white households. About two out of five white households were poor and four out of five Negro (fig. 1). Among the white households, income deprivation was more likely for those headed by an elderly female. About a third (34.8 percent) headed by white males were poor, compared with more than two-fifths (42.9 percent) of those headed by females. Among the Nergo households, about four out of five headed by an elderly person were poor regardless of sex.

The head and spouse were both present in nearly three-fifths of the poor households headed by an individual 65 or older, about a third of the heads were widowers or widows, and the remainder (7 percent) were divorced or separated or had never married. Most households with the spouse missing were headed by women, in part an indication of their greater longevity.

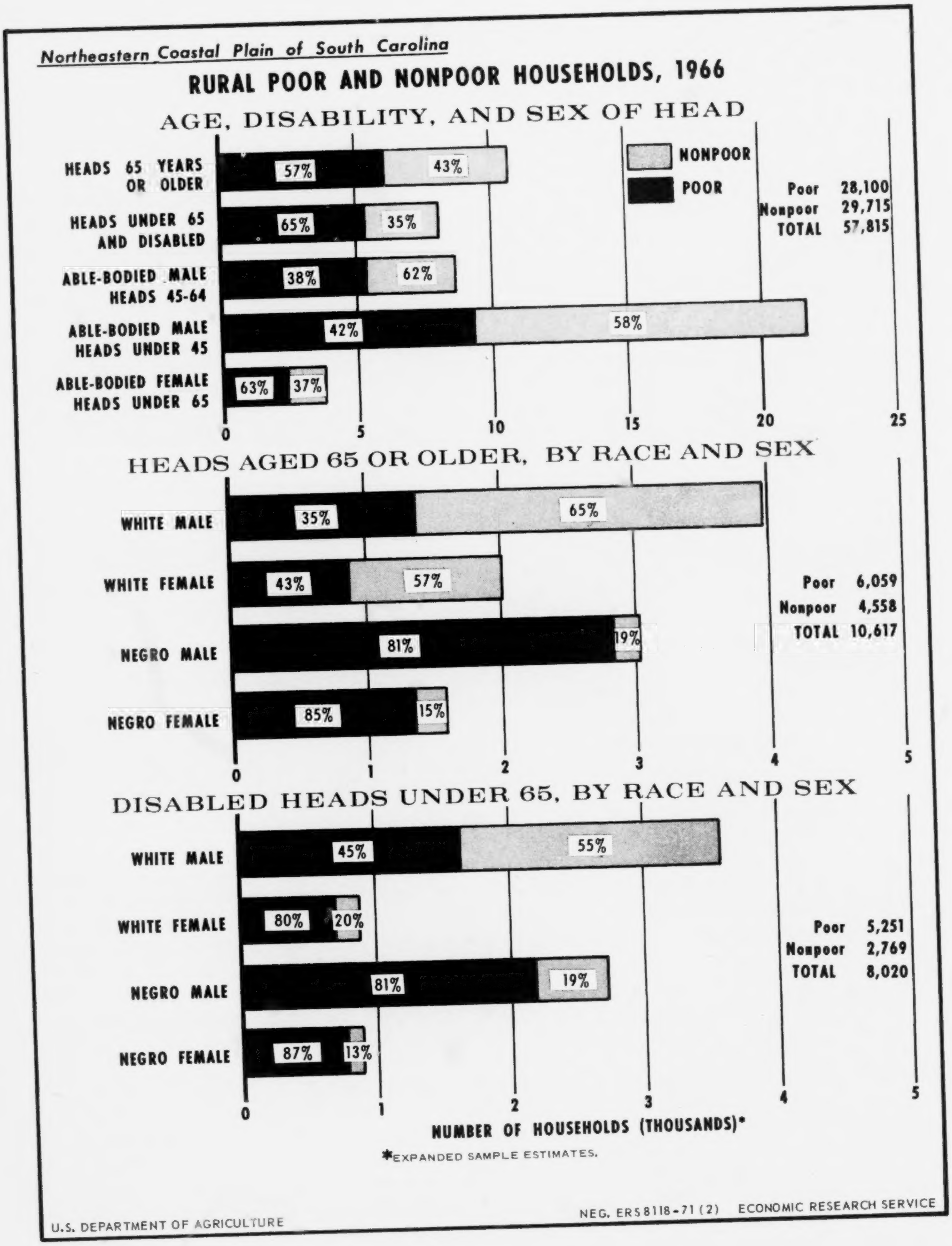
Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina
RURAL POOR AND NONPOOR HOUSEHOLDS, 1966
AGE, DISABILITY, AND SEX OF HEAD
NONPOOR
POOR
HEADS 65 YEARS OR OLDER
57%
43%
HEADS UNDER 65 AND DISABLED
65%
35%
ABLE-BODIED MALE HEADS 45-64
38%
62%
ABLE-BODIED MALE HEADS UNDER 45
42%
58%
ABLE-BODIED FEMALE HEADS UNDER 65
63%
37%
Poor 28,100
Nonpoor 29,715
TOTAL 57,815
0
5
10
15
20
25
HEADS AGED 65 OR OLDER, BY RACE AND SEX
WHITE MALE
35%
65%
WHITE FEMALE
43%
57%
NEGRO MALE
81%
19%
NEGRO FEMALE
85%
15%
Poor 6,059
Nonpoor 4,558
TOTAL 10,617
0
1
2
3
4
5
DISABLED HEADS UNDER 65, BY RACE AND SEX
WHITE MALE
45%
55%
WHITE FEMALE
80%
20%
NEGRO MALE
81%
19%
NEGRO FEMALE
87%
13%
Poor 5,251
Nonpoor 2,769
TOTAL 8,020
0
1
2
3
4
5
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS (THOUSANDS)*
*EXPANDED SAMPLE ESTIMATES.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 8118-71 (2)
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Figure 1

Health

More than two-thirds of deprived household heads 65 years of age and older reported being disabled -- 40 percent totally and 29 percent partially. Circulatory ailments accounted for more than half of their disabilities, followed in order by skeletal ailments and "old age."

Wives were apparently in better health than their husbands. While more than two-fifths of female spouses said they were disabled, most of these rated their disability as partial rather than total. It is probable, however, that the heads, mostly men, reported their disability in terms of their capacity for employment at physical labor. Their wives may have had greater reference to their capacity to do housework.

Nearly a third of both the heads of poor households and their spouses had visited a physician or clinic about their health within the month preceding the survey. Three-fifths had made such a visit within the previous 6 months. A fourth of the heads, however, and 17 percent of the spouses had not received medical care during the previous year.

Among deprived households headed by an elderly person, practically all (94 percent) had incurred medical expenses during 1965, the year preceding the study. The median expense was about $75. Less than a third had any kind of health or hospitalization insurance. The medicare and medicaid programs had not gone into effect at the time of the survey.

Elderly heads whose households had incurred expenses of $50 or more and had no insurance were asked if they had received any assistance in paying their medical bills. The majority (57 percent) had not received assistance. More than a fourth (28 percent) had received assistance from welfare, and the remainder from private sources.

The question of whether the elderly persons studied received adequate health care could not be answered from the data. Some insight is gained, however, by comparing the poor and nonpoor. The length of time since receiving medical care was slightly greater for elderly heads of poor households, but there was no apparent difference between spouses of poor and nonpoor households. The nonpoor, however, incurred somewhat larger expenses for medical and dental care, despite the smaller number of family members. This could indicate a poorer quality of medical attention for the poor. On the other hand, it could indicate that clinics and private physicians provided approximately similar services to the elderly regardless of ability to pay.

Housing, Assets, and Liabilities

Of all households in the study area, home ownership was highest among the elderly -- two-thirds owned their homes. Even among the income-deprived, nearly three-fifths of the elderly heads were home owners. A higher proportion of owned than rented housing was sound and had piped running water and central plumbing. Practically all of the owned housing that was rated deteriorating needed only exterior or interior paint.

The higher proportion of home ownership among the elderly poor compared with the younger poor, was evident among both white and Negro households (table 2). Nearly three-fourths of the elderly white and half of the elderly Negro heads were home owners, compared with 45 percent and 21 percent, respectively, for younger household heads classified as income-deprived.

Table 2.--Rural poor households: Home ownership by age and race of head, Northeast Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966

Tenure of occupancy	Households classified poor with --			
	Head 65 years of age or older		Head under 65 years of age	
	White	Negro	White	Negro
	-- Number --			
All households	39	66	99	289
	-- Percent --			
Total	100	100	100	100
Owns	72	48	45	21
Rents 1/	28	52	55	79

1/ Includes housing occupied "rent free."

The fact that a third of the elderly poor lived in dilapidated housing presents a problem. It is doubtful that they can finance housing improvements. Compounding the problem, only about one in three dilapidated houses was owner-occupied. Most of the remainder were occupied rent free. While the occupants probably performed some seasonal farm labor or services, their advanced age suggests that much of the housing was furnished as a gratuity by the landlord or a relative. There is little incentive for improving housing of this type and much of it will probably be razed as the present occupants die or leave.

The asset position of the elderly poor was somewhat better than that of younger age groups of the poor. Three-fifths of the poor households with elderly heads owned real estate with a median value of nearly $5,000. Fewer than half had any debts and most of these households owed less than $500. More than half had life insurance, but the amount was usually less than $1,000. Very few (15 percent) had any savings.

Dependent Children in Households

Adding to the income plight of the elderly poor was the large number of dependent children in their households. Nearly a third of the total population of these households was under 20 years of age; more than a fifth was under 15.

Only a fourth of the population was in the more productive 20-64 age group.

The relatively large number of dependent children usually resulted from extended families -- households containing children of the second and third generations. More than a third of deprived households with elderly heads were made up of extended families. Typically, these included one to three grandchildren, either nearing or in their teens. In most cases, neither parent of the children was present. Where one parent was present, it was usually an unmarried, widowed, divorced, or separated daughter with several children. Such extended families are a phenomenon of the South -- an aftermath of the massive outmigration of young adults, particularly Negroes, in search of better jobs.

Thus, for many of the elderly there is no relief from the responsibility of caring for and supporting young children -- relief which is usually assumed to mitigate the disadvantage of low income for those in their "twilight years." In addition, the children involved suffer not only the disadvantage of a broken home, but also that of serious income deprivation. Their grandparents, because of advanced age, have small expectation of increasing the family income through employment. The problem also imposes an extra burden on those who must support the schooling and other social overhead costs incident to rearing these children.

Sources of Income

About two-fifths of households headed by the elderly poor had income from work sources. Work income was the major source, however, in only a tenth of the households. Only 2 percent relied solely on work income. About a fourth of household heads reported work income, contributing about half of the total work income of all the households. About one spouse in five reported work income, but the income of spouses amounted to only a tenth of the total work income. The remaining two-fifths of work income was from employment of other members of the household (table 7).

More than 90 percent of the work income of these elderly heads was from agricultural sources -- mostly from farming or farm sharecropping. More than half of the work income of the spouses and 45 percent of that of other household members was also from agriculture.

Retirements and compensations (mostly pensions) accounted for nearly three-fifths of the income of these poor households -- retirements 42 percent and compensations 15 percent. Three-fourths of all income-deprived households headed by an elderly person reported income from these sources, most of it (82 percent) received by the household head.

About a fourth of the households received income from welfare (mostly old age assistance) which accounted for 12 percent of total income.

Practically all the deprived households (97 percent) received income from retirements and compensations and/or welfare. These sources combined accounted for 70 percent of total income (table 3).

Table 3.--Rural poor households with heads aged 65 or older: Number reporting income from retirements, compensations, and welfare, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1965

Source of income	Number of households
All households	101
With income from retirement and/or compensation or welfare	1/ 97
With income from retirement and/or compensation	76
With income from welfare	25
Without income from retirement, compensation, or welfare	4

1/ Detail does not add to total because of four households that reported both income from retirement and/or compensation and income from welfare.

Relatively few households (16 percent) received income from property (rents, interest, dividends). The amounts received were small and such income accounted for only 6 percent of total income of deprived households.

Comparison of the Poor and Nonpoor

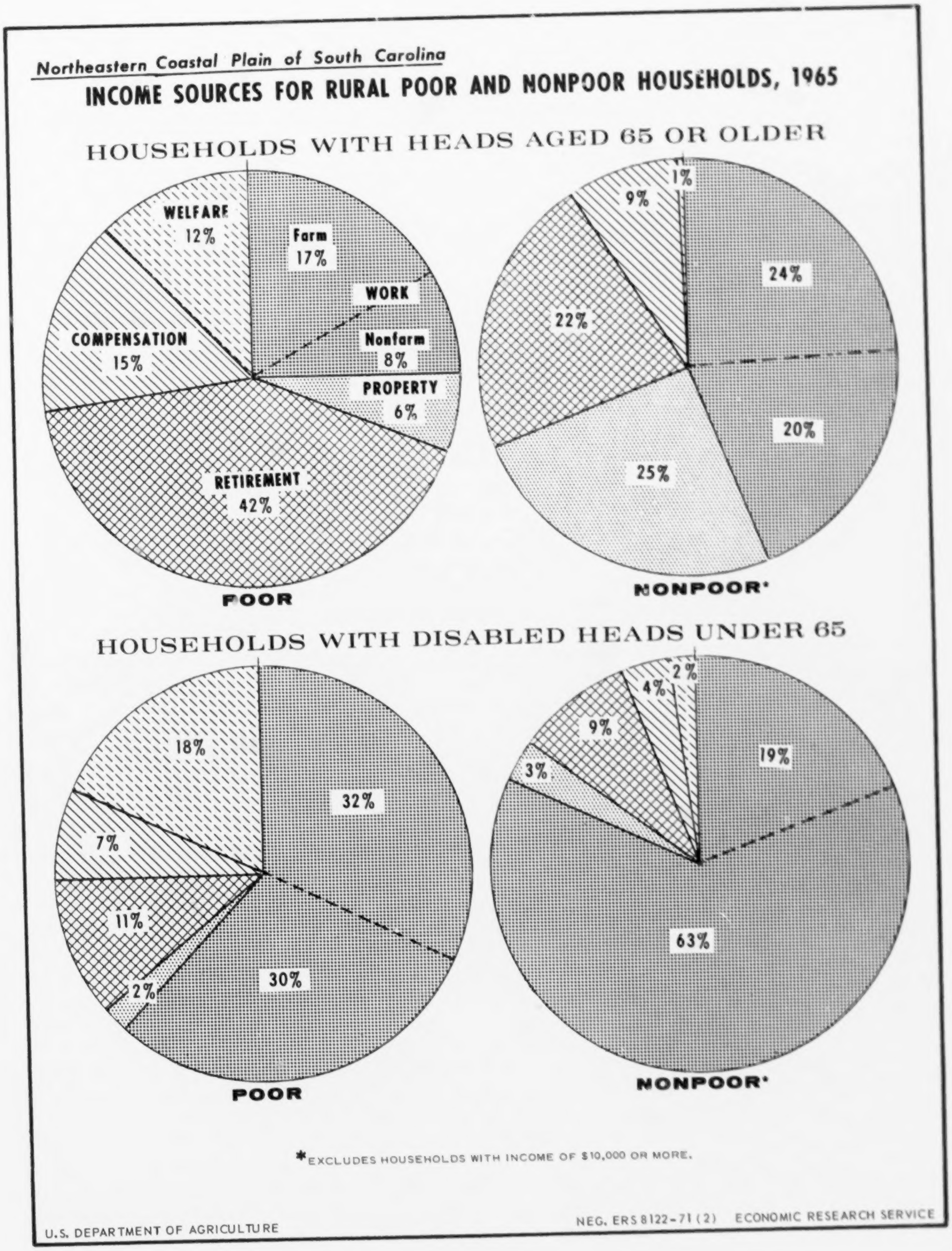
Some insight into the causes of poverty among the elderly may be gained by comparing poor and nonpoor households headed by persons 65 and over -- the age in life when the factors influencing the distribution of wealth have had full play.

Source of Income

A slightly higher proportion of nonpoor households headed by the elderly reported work income -- about half, compared with two-fifths of the poor. More than two-fifths of the total income of the nonpoor was work income, compared with a fourth for the poor (fig. 2). The average amount of income for those who worked was four times greater for the nonpoor -- $3,200, compared with $800 for the poor. While two-thirds of the work income of the elderly poor was from agriculture, this source provided only 55 percent of the work income for the elderly nonpoor.

In nonpoor households headed by an elderly person, about one spouse out of four worked, mostly at nonfarm jobs. Only one out of seven spouses of poor households reported work income, half of which was from farm wages.

Income from property (rents, interest, dividends) accounted for a fourth of the income of nonpoor households headed by a person 65 or older, compared with 6 percent for the poor households. Nearly half of the nonpoor households reported property income, averaging $2,000. This is associated with the much higher asset position of the nonpoor. More than half reported ownership of real estate valued at $10,000 or more. Nearly half had some savings, and 15



Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina

INCOME SOURCES FOR RURAL POOR AND NONPOOR HOUSEHOLDS, 1965

HOUSEHOLDS WITH HEADS AGED 65 OR OLDER

HOUSEHOLDS WITH DISABLED HEADS UNDER 65

*EXCLUDES HOUSEHOLDS WITH INCOME OF $10,000 OR MORE.

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Figure 2

percent reported savings of $5,000 or more. Many of the nonpoor were apparently retired farmers who rented out their land.

Practically all of the nonpoor households headed by an elderly person had incomes from retirements and compensations. This source, however, contributed only 30 percent of their total income, compared with 57 percent for the poor households. The average incomes from retirement and compensation of $800 and $1,150 for the poor and nonpoor, respectively, were not an important differential in the relative economic well-being of these two groups.

The Social Security Act of 1935 specifically exempted agricultural occupations. Farmers and farm workers were not brought under the Act until 1954. It is probable that many of the study area workers of advanced age had passed their years of peak earnings by that time. Others were not employed sufficiently to gain coverage under the Act. The Social Security Act was not designed to be a complete retirement program but, rather, to ensure the elderly a degree of security from need. In the present study, most rural households that depended solely on this income source were classified poor. And were it not for the work and property income of elderly families classified as nonpoor, many of these would have also fallen below the poverty threshold.

Health

Only about half of the elderly heads of nonpoor households reported being disabled, compared with nearly 70 percent of the poor. Total disability was reported by only a fourth of the nonpoor heads, compared with two-fifths of the poor household heads. This factor at least partially explains why fewer of the elderly poor were in the labor force. On the other had, some bias in rating of disability was probably involved. Most of the elderly poor had worked primarily as laborers -- mostly as farm laborers and sharecroppers. Their capacity to do physical labor had naturally declined with advancing age, and many may have rated their disabilities in terms of their occupational skills. On the other hand, the majority of the working nonpoor heads were farm owners, many of whom were probably engaged primarily in management and related activities which require less physical labor. Also, those who voluntarily retired from work would have been less likely to rate their disability as total.

One of the most notable differences between poor and nonpoor households headed by the elderly was in the educations of heads and spouses. Among heads of the poor households, fewer than one out of 10 had gone beyond 8 years of school; 55 percent had completed less than 5 years. Only 12 percent of the spouses had completed 9 years or more of school, and nearly half had completed less than 5 years. The illiteracy rate was 37 percent for heads and 32 percent for spouses.

Two-fifths of elderly heads of nonpoor households and two-thirds of their spouses had completed 9 or more years of school. More than a fourth of heads and nearly half of their spouses had completed high school. The wide difference in educational attainment could explain a large part of the present difference in income among the elderly. More years of education provided an option to farm employment.

Of the poor and nonpoor household heads not in the labor force or employed only in agriculture, about a third of both had previously worked at nonfarm jobs. But the poor had worked mostly as laborers and service workers while the nonpoor had worked primarily at white-collar and blue-collar jobs. Relatively few spouses had previously worked outside the home, but for those who had, the same trend prevailed.

Education and skills acquired by the head and spouse in their younger years apparently are the dominant factor in determining the degree of security these people have in their elderly years.

Implications

Poverty among the elderly of the study area is characterized by the syndrome of low education of both household head and spouse and limited skills acquired during a lifetime of farming. The characteristics that appear to influence income in the younger and generally more productive years -- education, occupation, ownership of income-producing assets -- appear to also influence income in retirement.

As noted earlier, most of the elderly poor (63 percent) were Negroes. The majority of these probably did not become poor as a result of advancing age. About the same proportion of Negro households, irrespective of age of head and spouse, were classified as poor. It is probable that among rural Negro households, social security, old age assistance, and other public programs of assistance to the aged have provided the elderly with a greater degree of income security than exists among the bulk of younger households. This is not intended to minimize the income plight of these elderly households, but to emphasize, rather, the need to assist those in younger age groups to acquire the skills and earn the income needed to provide greater security for their older age.

It is not likely that the elderly poor can improve their incomes through increased productive employment. Programs of public assistance will continue to be based largely on transfer payments. Expansion of existing programs will reach most of the elderly because practically all are now receiving retirements, compensations, or old age assistance. They are eligible for medicare, medicaid, and food stamp programs. The apparent lack of aid to dependent children in their households points to the need for reappraisal of existing eligibility requirements.

RURAL HOUSEHOLDS WITH DISABLED HEADS UNDER 65 YEARS OF AGE

Of all rural household heads under 65, 17 percent reported being disabled. Nearly two-thirds of the households they headed were classified as poor. They comprised nearly a fifth of all income-deprived households.

In the total population about an equal proportion (17 percent) of both white and Negro household heads under 65 were disabled. A higher proportion of disabled Negro than white household heads, however, were classified as poor -- 82 percent and 52 percent, respectively. Among poor households with a disabled head, 44 percent were white and 56 percent were Negro (fig. 1).

A fifth of disabled heads were women. These were all widowed, divorced, or separated, or had never married. For households with disabled female heads, the chances of being poor were about four out of five, irrespective of race.

Absence of a spouse appeared to be highly associated with income deprivation for households headed by the disabled. Less than two-thirds of the poor households contained a spouse, compared with nearly 85 percent of the nonpoor households (table 4). Adding to the plight of the poor was the high proportion of households with a disabled head plus a spouse who reported being disabled: two-fifths, compared with less than a fifth of the nonpoor households. Thus, an able-bodied spouse was present in less than two-fifths of poor households headed by a disabled person, compared with two-thirds of nonpoor households with a disabled head. The absence of an able-bodied spouse would most likely intensify the burden of income deprivation.

Table 4.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with disabled heads under 65: Marital status of head and disability of spouse, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966

Marital status of head and disability of spouse	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Disabled household heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
Without a spouse	31	34.1	8	16.7
With spouse present	60	65.9	40	83.3
Spouse not disabled	35	38.5	32	66.7
Spouse partially disabled	21	23.1	8	16.6
Spouse totally disabled	4	4.4	--	--

Health

There was little difference in the extent of disability among the disabled heads of poor and nonpoor households. For both groups, about two-thirds reported being partially disabled and the remainder, totally disabled (table 8). The leading cause of disability was circulatory ailments (primarily heart trouble) followed by skeletal ailments (predominantly "back trouble" and arthritis).

Causes of disability among spouses were also most frequently circulatory and skeletal. Few spouses, however, rated their disability as total. But since relatively few were in the labor force, it is possible that many rated their disability in relation to "keeping house" rather than to holding a job.

Despite their low incomes, 90 percent of disabled heads of poor households and 66 percent of their spouses had visited a doctor or clinic about their health during the 12 months preceding the study. About half reported medical bills in 1965 of $100 or more; a fourth reported medical bills of $250 or more. About half the households that had no medical insurance but had incurred medical bills of $50 or more received aid from welfare in paying their bills.

Heads and spouses of nonpoor households had visited a doctor or clinic about their health more recently and their medical bills for 1965 were larger. Half reported medical bills in excess of $250. More than half were covered by health or hospitalization insurance.

Income and Employment

More than three-fourths of the households classified as poor and having a disabled head had total family incomes from all sources of less than $2,000; a third had incomes of less than $1,000. The average income was $1,600 (table 9).

Income from work sources was the major component of total household income for both poor and nonpoor households, comprising 62 percent and 82 percent, respectively. Nearly 80 percent of poor households reported work income and 90 percent of nonpoor households. The average work income received by the poor ($1,263) was approximately a third of that received by the nonpoor ($3,943).

About a third of poor households received income from retirements or compensations (table 9). An additional third received income from welfare -- mostly aid to the disabled and aid to dependent children. Each of these income sources, however, accounted for slightly less than a fifth of the total income (fig. 2).

A slightly smaller proportion of the disabled heads of poor households were in the labor force -- three-fifths, compared with two-thirds of the nonpoor. The major difference, however, was the kind of job held. More than half the work income of the poor was from agriculture. More than half of the employed poor heads were farm sharecroppers and farm laborers. An additional fifth were employed in nonfarm labor or services. Relatively few were in white-collar or blue-collar occupations or owned a farm. In contrast, two-thirds of employed nonpoor heads under 65 and disabled held white-collar or blue-collar jobs or owned a farm. Three-fifths of the income of the nonpoor heads was from nonfarm work.

An employed spouse was present in only about one out of six poor households and these worked primarily as laborers or in service occupations. In contrast, about half the nonpoor households had a working spouse. The majority were white-collar and blue-collar workers. While the household head contributed the larger share of work income in poor households, the spouse and other family members contributed more than half the work income of nonpoor households (fig. 3 and table 10). Thus, a skilled, able-bodied, working spouse appeared to be important in determining the economic well-being of households with disabled heads.

Of the income of poor households from agricultural sources, more than a fourth was from farm wages. More than three-fourths of farm wages was earned by the spouse and other family members. In contrast, only a fourth of the work income of nonpoor households was from agriculture. But practically all of this accrued to the household head from operation of a farm.

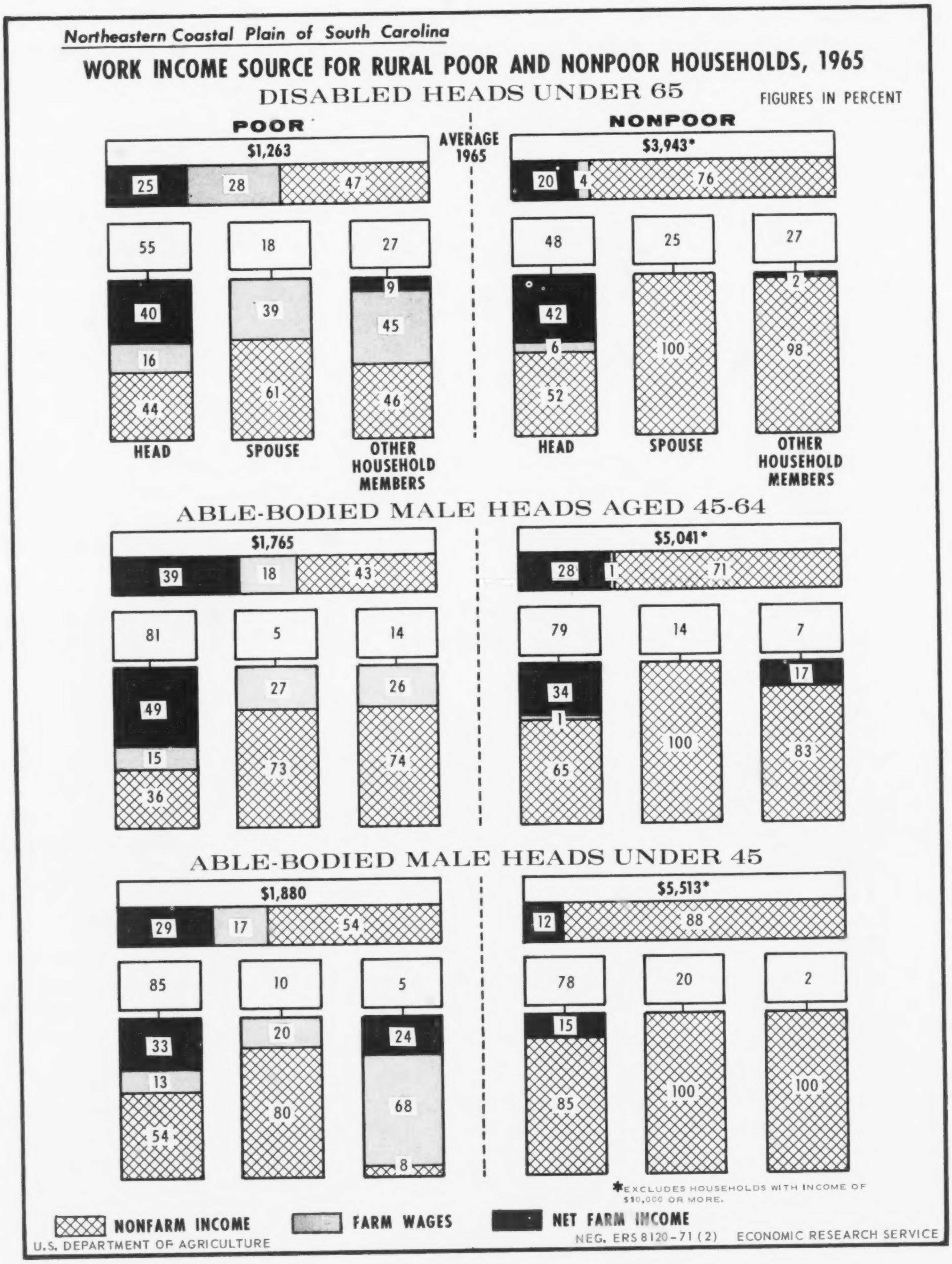
Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina
WORK INCOME SOURCE FOR RURAL POOR AND NONPOOR HOUSEHOLDS, 1965
DISABLED HEADS UNDER 65
FIGURES IN PERCENT
POOR
AVERAGE 1965
NONPOOR
$1,263
25
28
47
$3,943*
20
4
76
55
18
27
40
16
44
39
61
9
45
46
HEAD
SPOUSE
OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS
48
25
27
42
6
52
100
2
98
HEAD
SPOUSE
OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS
ABLE-BODIED MALE HEADS AGED 45-64
$1,765
39
18
43
$5,041*
28
1
71
81
5
14
49
15
36
27
73
26
74
79
14
7
34
1
65
100
17
83
ABLE-BODIED MALE HEADS UNDER 45
$1,880
29
17
54
$5,513*
12
88
85
10
5
33
13
54
20
80
24
68
8
78
20
2
15
85
100
100
*EXCLUDES HOUSEHOLDS WITH INCOME OF $10,000 OR MORE.
▨ NONFARM INCOME
▒ FARM WAGES
■ NET FARM INCOME
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Figure 3

Property income(rents, interest, dividends) was a relatively unimportant source among households with disabled heads and was reported by only about 7 percent of the households, both poor and nonpoor. Income from retirements and compensations was reported by a third of the poor and two-fifths of the nonpoor households; such income comprised about 15 percent of total income for each group. The slightly higher payments received by the nonpoor were not a significant factor in their economic well-being. Welfare payments were reported by a third of the poor, but comprised only a fifth of their total income.

The major determinant of economic well-being among households with a disabled head was the amount of work income. This was determined by the proportion of heads and their spouses who were employed and the amount of income they earned, which was highly related to acquired skills and the kinds of jobs they had.

Education

Nearly three-fifths of the disabled heads of poor households had completed less than 5 years of schooling. Nearly half were illiterate. Only 6 percent had completed high school. Their spouses were also handicapped by low levels of formal education. Only one out of 10 had completed high school; nearly a third were illiterate.

In contrast, nearly a fifth of heads of nonpoor households had finished high school; an additional fifth had completed 9 to 11 years of schooling. Their spouses had substantially higher levels of education. More than two-fifths had completed high school, and an additional fourth had completed 9 to 11 grades.

For the physically disabled, education and training are probably of even greater importance in determining economic well-being than for other groups. A person may be disabled for work requiring physical strength, but fully capable of functioning in a wide variety of skilled occupations.

Housing, Assets, and Liabilities

Only 30 percent of the disabled heads of poor households owned their homes. Most of the remainder occupied their homes rent free for services associated with farming. Nearly 90 percent of all housing was deteriorating or dilapidated. While two-fifths had piped running water, only a fourth had an indoor flush toilet and a bath or shower.

Nearly 70 percent owned no real estate, and 95 percent had no savings. While two-thirds had life insurance, only a fifth reported as much as $1,000. Over three-fifths reported having debts, but virtually all of these persons reported owing less than $1,000; three-fourths owed less than $500.

Many factors which may contribute to the well-being of households with disabled heads cannot be isolated from the data. The stage in life or the age at which a person becomes disabled is important because it affects his acquired wealth or income-producing assets. The heads of nonpoor households were slightly older -- two-fifths were aged 60-64, compared with 29 percent of the heads of poor households. It is possible than many heads of poor households were disabled at a younger age, or that a higher proportion suffer from congenital health problems.

Inherited wealth, such as a farm or other business, is also important. Such intergenerational factors are probably reflected in the higher proportion of disabled Negro heads classified as poor.

Dependent Children in Household

The larger size of household of the disabled poor -- an average of 4.8 persons, compared with 3.6 persons for the disabled nonpoor -- is partly a result of the use of family size along with income in the classification. While two-thirds of households with disabled heads were classified as poor, these poor households contained nearly three-fourths of the population of all households with a disabled head. They also contained four-fifths of the youth under 20 years of age, and 90 percent of the children under 10.

The larger households and higher proportion of youth are due to several factors. As stated previously, the heads of poor households were younger than the heads of nonpoor households and consequently were more likely to have children still at home. A higher proportion of the poor were Negroes, who characteristically have larger families. Further, in addition to the primary families, there was a high incidence of extended families among poor households. A fourth of poor households contained dependent children other than those of the head -- usually grandchildren. In many cases, both parents of the children were missing.

Thus, the needs of poor households with disabled heads extend beyond that of adequate housing and medical care for a group of persons of advancing age. These households contained 16 percent of all deprived youth in the study area.

Prospects for Training and Job Mobility of the Poor

The disabled poor, as a group, have somewhat limited prospects for income improvement through training and job placement programs. Less than two-fifths (38 percent) of the household heads were willing to take courses in job training (fig. 4 and table 11). Since two-thirds of these had less than 5 years of schooling, it is likely that remedial education courses would be a prerequisite for the majority. About half of those willing to train were employed as farm sharecroppers and farm laborers; most of the remainder worked in domestic and other nonfarm services.

Those both willing to train and willing to change jobs were only 27 percent of the total. The proportion who were also willing to move from the area was only one out of five. Only 6 percent would move 200 miles or more for a better paying job.

About half the spouses of disabled heads of poor households were willing to take training courses. The majority of these were not in the labor force

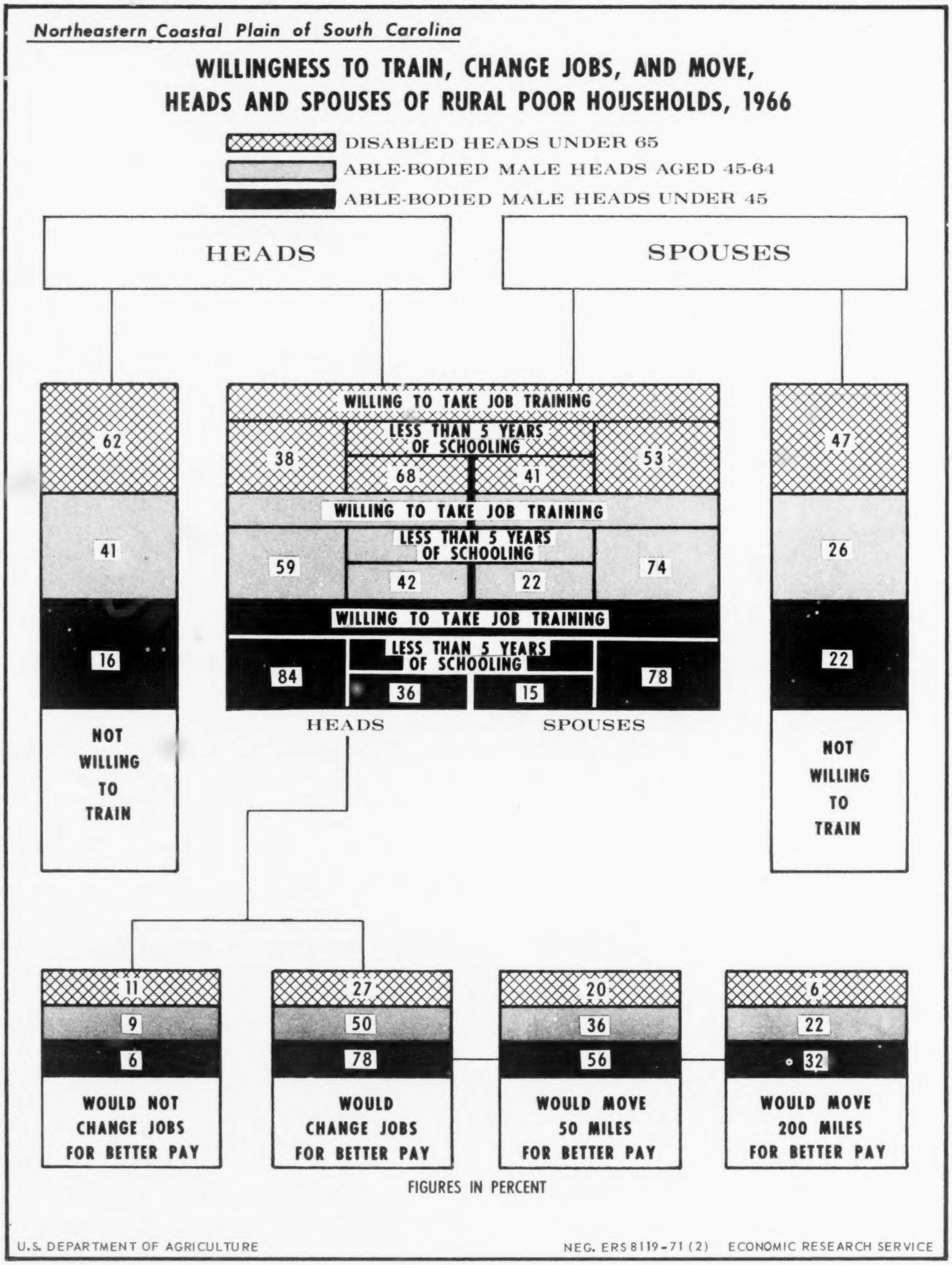
Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina
WILLINGNESS TO TRAIN, CHANGE JOBS, AND MOVE, HEADS AND SPOUSES OF RURAL POOR HOUSEHOLDS, 1966
DISABLED HEADS UNDER 65
ABLE-BODIED MALE HEADS AGED 45-64
ABLE-BODIED MALE HEADS UNDER 45
HEADS
SPOUSES
62
41
16
NOT WILLING TO TRAIN
WILLING TO TAKE JOB TRAINING
LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF SCHOOLING
38
68
41
53
WILLING TO TAKE JOB TRAINING
LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF SCHOOLING
59
42
22
74
WILLING TO TAKE JOB TRAINING
LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF SCHOOLING
84
36
15
78
HEADS
SPOUSES
47
26
22
NOT WILLING TO TRAIN
11
9
6
WOULD NOT CHANGE JOBS FOR BETTER PAY
27
50
78
WOULD CHANGE JOBS FOR BETTER PAY
20
36
56
WOULD MOVE 50 MILES FOR BETTER PAY
6
22
32
WOULD MOVE 200 MILES FOR BETTER PAY
FIGURES IN PERCENT
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Figure 4

but said they would accept a job if one were available. As indicated earlier, spouses had fewer disabilities than heads and somewhat higher education levels.

While the spouse's potential for training was usually greater than the head's, less than a third of the households contained a spouse who said she would train (a third of the households did not contain a spouse). There is always the question of whether those who said they would take job training would do so if the opportunity were available. The reluctance of household heads to leave the area also restrains the job mobility of their spouses.

Of these who would not train, the majority of household heads gave "poor health" and "too old" as the reason. Spouses gave these reasons also, but "family responsibility" was also a leading deterrent to their training.

Implications

For the majority of income-deprived households with disabled heads, increased welfare or other types of income transfer payments will probably be of major importance in programs designed to help provide their minimum needs. The advanced age of the group, along with their physical and educational handicaps, imposes severe restraints on types of training feasible for them and on their job and geographic mobility. Since nearly half the disabled heads of poor households were under 55, however, programs of assistance should probably include vocational rehabilitation and counseling services to encourage job training and increased labor force participation.

RURAL HOUSEHOLDS HEADED BY ABLE-BODIED MALES AGED 45-64

Able-bodied males 45-64 years old headed approximately a fourth of all households in the study area. Nearly two-fifths (38 percent) headed households classified as income-deprived. These households comprised nearly a fifth of all households so classified.

Four-fifths of the income-deprived households were Negro. Of all households headed by an able-bodied Negro aged 45-64, nearly three-fourths were classified as poor. Among white households, the corresponding proportion was 13 percent (table 12).

The majority of household heads were in the younger age groups of the category. Two-fifths were 45-49 years old; a fourth were 50-54. Only a tenth were over 60. There was little difference in the proportion of heads in comparable age groups of the poor and nonpoor.

Only a fifth of the housing occupied by this group of the poor was rated as sound and having central plumbing. Nearly half (46 percent) was rated as dilapidated. Only a third of these poor owned their homes. Most of the remainder occupied farm housing rent free or for services. The heads of these houses were employed primarily as farm sharecroppers and farm laborers. A high proportion of the dilapidated housing was rent-free farm housing.

Deprived households headed by able-bodied males 45-64 years old comprised only a tenth of all rural households. Their significance, however, is somewhat greater since they contained 12 percent of all rural youth under 20 years of age. The average size of household was 5.6 persons. The large size of household and large number of youth were influenced by a high incidence of extended families. About a fourth contained another family unit -- in most cases grandchildren of the head. In the majority of cases, both parents of the children were missing.

Health

Among deprived households headed by able-bodied males 45-64, both heads and spouses were apprently in good health. Only one out of 10 had a sickness or accident that kept them from working during the year preceding the survey. Two out of five heads of poor households had not visited a doctor or clinic during the last 2 years. While the time since the last medical checkup was greater for the poor than the nonpoor, more than a fourth (28 percent) of the nonpoor also had not had medical attention during the last 2 years. Among spouses there was no apparent difference betweeen the poor and nonpoor in the time interval since the last medical visit.

On the other hand, the poor had significantly smaller expenditures for medical care during the preceding year, despite the larger number of family members. Data were not obtained for either group on the frequency of medical visits by family members other than the head and spouse.

Nearly half of the poor had incurred medical bills of $50 or more during the preceding year. Few of them had health or hospitalization insurance. Virtually none had received any assistance from welfare in paying these bills. It is probable that many of these families, particularly children, receive inadequate medical care. Rural areas, in general, have lagged far behind urban areas in both the facilities and the ability to furnish health services to the poor (6).

Employment

There was virtually no unemployment (1.1 percent) among the heads of poor households under discussion. Half gave their major occupation as farming; an additional fourth were farm laborers. Nonfarm labor accounted for most of the remainder.

Among farmers, only a fourth owned their farms; most of the remainder were sharecroppers. Practically all had farmed during their entire adult lives. Of those employed in agriculture (as farmers and farm laborers), only a third had had any nonfarm work experience, and this was mostly as nonfarm laborers.

Most heads were married and the spouse was present in the household (91 percent). About a third of spouses were in the labor force. An unemployment rate of 10 percent, however, reduced the proportion employed to a fourth. Taking into account the households without a spouse, little more than a fifth contained an employed spouse. Unpaid family labor on the farm was not counted as employment. This is a partial explanation of the small number of working spouses. For farm households, it would be expected that many spouses worked seasonally on their farms.

Sources of Income

More than three-fourths of the poor households had total family incomes from all sources of less than $2,000. The average income was $1,843; income per capita was $330 (table 13). Nonpoor households in the same classification had an average income of $5,110.

A comparison of income sources for poor and nonpoor households shows great similarity in the high proportion of income from work sources -- 96 percent for the poor and 99 percent for the nonpoor. The large difference in amount of income is due to the kind of work income, the occupations represented, and the participation of the spouse and other family members.

Nearly three-fifths (56 percent) of the income of the poor was from agricultural sources (fig. 3). Of this, approximately a third was from farm wages and the remainder from operation of a farm. The average incomes from farm operation and farm wage work were $1,321 and $869, respectively. Even though nearly half of the nonpoor also farmed, about 70 percent of their income was from nonagricultural sources; two-thirds was from nonfarm wages and salaries.

The nonpoor's average income from farming was more than twice that of the poor and their incomes from wages and salaries were nearly three times as great. The larger incomes from farming among the nonpoor were associated with the high proportion of household heads who were farm owners. Among the poor, most farmers were sharecroppers. The larger incomes from wages and salaries of the nonpoor were associated with occupational skills. A fifth were employed in white-collar occupations and a fourth were blue-collar workers. A third gave their major occupations as farm owners. About 10 percent were farm sharecroppers and farm laborers. The remainder (14 percent) were in nonfarm labor and service occupations.

Contributing to the larger incomes of the nonpoor was the slightly higher proportion of spouses who worked. But the major difference was the occupation of the spouse. Among working spouses of nonpoor household heads, two-thirds were employed in white-collar and blue-collar occupations. The average incomes of spouses of nonpoor and poor households were $2,021 and $422, respectively. Much of the earnings of spouses of poor households was obviously from seasonal and part-time employment as farm laborers and domestic servants.

The household head earned four-fifths of the income in both poor and nonpoor households (table 14). Spouses earned 13 percent of the total family income of the nonpoor, compared with only 6 percent for the poor. A correspondingly higher proportion of income in poor households was contributed by other household members. This is because of the larger size families among the poor -- an average of 5.6 persons, compared with 3.6 persons in nonpoor households.

The larger size of families among the poor creates a wider income disparity than indicated by total household income alone. Income per capita for poor and nonpoor households was $330 and $1,091, respectively.

Education, Skills, and Income-Producing Assets

The low incomes and low-skill occupations among heads and spouses of poor households are closely associated with low educational attainment. Nearly half the heads had less than 5 years of schooling; only one out of 10 had completed 9 years. Nearly a third were illiterate. While their spouses had more years of formal education, only a fourth had gone beyond 8 grades in school; illiteracy was 17 percent.

Both heads and spouses of nonpoor households had considerably more formal schooling. Half of the heads and two-thirds of the spouses had completed 9 years of school. Although some had attended less than 5 years of school (17 percent for heads and 4 percent for spouses), there was virtually no illiteracy.

The cause of income deprivation, however, cannot be measured by formal education alone. Ownership of income-producing assets such as a farm or other business is also important. Three-fifths of the poor did not own any real estate; only 15 percent reported holdings worth as much as $5,000. In contrast, more than two-fifths of the nonpoor reported real estate holdings worth $10,000 or more. Whether these were acquired as a result of their higher incomes or through inheritance was not determined from the study. The greater debt liability of the nonpoor, however, may indicate that they have a greater propensity to invest.

Relatively few household heads reported having received formal courses of special training. But the number of nonpoor heads in blue-collar occupations is a measure of their greater acquired skills in crafts and operations -- skills that may have been passed from father to son or gradually learned through progressive job advancement.

The predominance of Negroes among the poor is, as mentioned previously, an associative relationship that cannot be dismissed. Low levels of education and training, low-skill occupations highly oriented to agriculture, lack of property ownership -- factors which normally reduce the productivity and earnings of the labor force -- had a high incidence among Negroes. The extent to which Negroes were disadvantaged in acquiring the cultural and material skills and assets needed to better themselves financially could not be measured by data from the study. The data indicate, however, that the poor, irrespective of race, have a commonness of associated factors. These factors comprise the syndrome of the poor.

Prospects for Training and Job Mobility of the Poor

Measures needed to improve the income-producing skills of these household heads and spouses of advancing age may be a generation too late. Judging from their responses to questions on training, changing jobs, and moving, however, many of these men and women still have hopes of a brighter future. The fact that two-fifths of the heads and spouses of poor households were under 50 and a fourth were between 50 and 55, indicates that many have productive years ahead.

Three-fifths of the heads of poor households and nearly three-fourths of their spouses said they would take job training courses if such were provided free of charge (fig. 4 and table 15). Most heads wanted courses in crafts (such as carpentry, masonry, and electrical repair) and mechanical operations. The majority of spouses wanted courses in manufacturing operations and in nonfarm services (cooking and cosmetology, for example).

The reasons heads gave for unwillingness to train were predominately their advanced age and satisfaction with their present situation. Spouses also gave age as the major reason for not training, followed by child care and satisfaction with their present situation.

Heads willing to train had levels of education slightly above the average for the group. Two-fifths, however, had less than 5 years of schooling; only 11 percent had completed 9 or more years. Nonfarm workers showed greater interest in training than did farmworkers (farmers, sharecroppers, and farm laborers). Heads who would train also showed much greater willingness to change jobs and to move from the area for a better paying job.

Not all who were willing to train were willing to change jobs, however. Among all able-bodied persons aged 45-64 who headed poor households, the proportion both willing to train and to change jobs dropped to about half. With the additional stipulation that they leave the community (move 50 miles) to get a better paying job, the proportion decreased to a third. Only a fifth would both train and move 200 miles for a better job.

There was little difference in the formal educational attainment of spouses who were willing to train and those who were not. A higher proportion of those in the labor force were willing to train than those who were not working or looking for work. Of those not in the labor force but willing to train, most said they would accept a job if one were available for which they were qualified.

Implications

A majority of those aged 45-64 who headed deprived households were under 55. Being in good health, they still have a span of productive years ahead, before retirement. The prospects for the success of self-help programs through retraining and job placement, however, are dimmed by this group's reluctance to change jobs or leave the area. Many are probably hesitant to discard the skills learned during a lifetime of farming, even though these skills are becoming obsolete in a rapidly changing farm economy. Equally important in affecting the success of any retraining program is the fact that because of the low educational levels of the heads, extensive remedial education is a probable prerequisite for many types of job training.

Programs of self-help assistance to this group will probably need to involve a mixture of vocational training and guidance and business loans and grants, combined with close supervision. For many, particularly those of advanced age, direct welfare assistance may be the only feasible method of improving their incomes.

RURAL HOUSEHOLDS HEADED BY ABLE-BODIED MALES UNDER 45

Able-bodied males under 45 headed 37 percent of all households in the study area. About two-fifths of their households were classified as poor. These poor households comprised a third of all poor households and about 16 percent of all rural households. About half the heads of these poor households were aged 35-44 and the remainder were under 35 (table 16).

Four-fifths of the deprived households with able-bodied male heads under 45 were Negro. Among all Negro households headed by males in this age category, nearly 80 percent were classified as poor; the corresponding proportion among whites was 13 percent.

While comprising 16 percent of all rural households, poor households headed by able-bodied males under 45 accounted for a fourth of the rural population. Of much greater significance, these households contained 31 percent of all rural youth under 20 years of age and nearly half of all deprived youth. The average household size was 6.6 persons. Practically all households contained children of the head. However, subfamilies with dependent children were not so prevalent in these households as among older age groups. Only 8 percent contained dependent children other than those of the household head.

Employment

Most heads in this group of the poor were employed at the time of the survey (98.7 percent). Some were apparently working at temporary jobs, however, because 4.5 percent of the employed were looking for work. All were in the labor force.

About half these heads gave their major occupation as farm sharecroppers or farm laborers and about 7 percent were farm owners. About a fourth worked at nonfarm labor or services and the remaining 16 percent had blue-collar jobs.

Virtually all these heads were married and the spouse was present in the household (97 percent). Only one spouse out of five was employed. Unemployed spouses (those actively looking for work) accounted for 43 percent of all spouses in the labor force, and were almost as numerous as those who had jobs. Employed spouses worked mostly at farm labor or domestic service. Unpaid family work on the farm was not counted as employment in the study. This is a partial explanation of the low labor force participation of spouses.

Income

The high rate of labor force participation among heads of these poor households belies the state of their economic well-being. A fourth reported total family incomes of less than $1,000; more than half reported incomes of less than $2,000. The average income was $1,900 (table 17). Because of the large size of households, an average of 6.6 persons, per capita income was only $286.

Income from work sources accounted for nearly all (99 percent) household income. Income from agriculture, both farming and farm wages, accounted for 45 percent of total household income (fig. 3 and table 17). The incomes of nonpoor households were also almost totally from work sources. However, a much higher proportion of their income (88 percent) was from nonfarm sources.

Spouses of nonpoor households contributed about a fifth of total household income, compared with a tenth for spouses of poor households. Slightly less than half the spouses of nonpoor households had wage or salary income, compared with a third for poor households. The nonpoor spouses all worked at nonfarm jobs, and their average earnings were about four times larger than those of the poor spouses. The average wage and salary earnings per working spouse of $531 for poor households indicates that much of their employment was seasonal or part-time. This would be expected from their occupations, largely farm labor and domestic service.

The fact that 80 percent of the income of spouses of poor households was from nonfarm jobs is somewhat misleading. About half were employed as farm laborers, with an average income of $220. The remaining half, employed in nonfarm jobs, had average earnings of $810. Thus, the average earnings of spouses is heavily weighted by the incomes of those who had nonfarm jobs -- particularly, the few who had full-time jobs.

Another indication of the seasonality of employment of spouses of poor households is that a third received work income in the year preceding the study (1965), but only a fifth were employed at the time of the study. In contrast, more spouses of nonpoor households were employed at the time of the study than during the preceding year -- a result of new entries into the labor force.

Education

Able-bodied male household heads under 45 had more schooling than heads in other categories. This would be expected because of their younger age. Nonetheless, nearly two-fifths of the heads of poor households had completed less than 5 years of school. Only one out of five had gone beyond 8 years. More than a fourth could not read and write. Only 6 percent had completed high school. Only 4 percent had received courses of job training.

About 45 percent of nonpoor household heads under 45 had completed high school; an additional fourth had completed 9 to 11 years. In addition, a fourth had received special training -- mostly in white-collar and blue-collar skills.

Spouses in both groups had higher educational attainment than heads. Only 15 percent of the poor, however, had completed high school. An additional 29 percent had gone 9 to 11 years. More than half had completed less than 9 years of school. In contrast, three-fifths of nonpoor spouses had completed 12 or more years of schooling. More than four-fifths had gone at least 9 years.

Housing, Assets, and Liabilities

About two-fifths of the housing of deprived households with the head under 45 was rated as dilapidated and an additional two-fifths was deteriorating. A fourth had piped running water in the dwelling; less than a fifth had an indoor flush toilet or a bathtub or shower. Only a fifth owned their homes, a much lower proportion of home ownership than among older categories of the poor. Most of the remainder occupied rent-free housing for performing services associated with farming.

Four-fifths of the poor did not own any real estate; only 3 percent of those owning real estate reported owning any with a value of $10,000 or more. In contrast, two-thirds of the nonpoor owned real estate and nearly two-fifths reported ownership of real estate valued at $10,000 or more.

For both the poor and nonpoor, the proportions owning real estate were similar to the proportions owning their housing. The extent to which the real estate represented income-producing property in addition to the home was not determined. As stated previously, however, most farmers among the nonpoor owned their farms. The lack of income from property sources indicates that, other than farmland, most of the real estate owned by the nonpoor represented home ownership. Approximately a fifth of the nonpoor reported debts of $10,000 or more; an additional fifth reported debts of $5,000 to $9,999. While most of the poor also had debts, three-fourths owed less than $1,000.

Few households headed by males under 45 had amassed substantial savings. Ninety-four percent of the poor and 62 percent of the nonpoor reported no savings.

Health

For both the poor and the nonpoor, there were few apparent health problems among household heads under 45 and their spouses. Only about 10 percent of heads and 15 percent of spouses had had a sickness or accident during the 12 months preceding the survey that kept them from doing their work. This held for both poor and nonpoor households.

More than half the heads of poor households had not visited a doctor's office or clinic within the last 12 months, but neither had nearly two-fifths of the heads of nonpoor households. This may indicate a greater comparative lack of preventative medical care for heads of poor households. Among the poor, spouses had received medical care more recently than heads -- half within the last 6 months before the survey. The situation was similar among the nonpoor.

In their medical and dental bills, however, there was a sharp contrast between poor and nonpoor households. Nearly half the poor had spent less than $50 during the preceding year; two-thirds had spent less than $100. On the other hand, two-thirds of the nonpoor had spent $100 or more and nearly half had spent more than $250. Only a third of the poor had medical insurance, compared with three-fourths of the nonpoor.

Given the larger number of youth among the poor, the wide disparity in medical expenditures probably indicates inadequate preventative medical care for children.

Prospects for Training and Job Mobility of the Poor

Most heads of poor households (84 percent) indicated they would take courses of special training if they were offered free of charge (fig. 4 and table 19). Willingness to train was apparently not strongly influenced by educational attainment. Eighty percent of those with less than 5 years of schooling said they would train, compared with about 86 percent of those with more than 5 years. Of those who would train, 36 percent had less than 5 years of schooling. Only about three-fifths of farm owners were willing to train, compared with about nine out of 10 farm sharecroppers and farm laborers, as well as heads with nonfarm occupations.

Virtually all who were willing to train were willing to change jobs for higher pay. About two-thirds were willing to move a distance of 50 miles to get a better job. Two-fifths were even willing to move a distance of 200 miles for better pay.

About two out of three heads wanted to train as craftsmen -- auto and electronic repairmen, electricians, and carpenters, for example. A fourth were undecided, and most of the remainder chose factory operations.

Nearly four-fifths of spouses said they would take job training. Of those with 9 or more years of schooling, the proportion was nearly nine out of 10.

A slightly higher proportion of spouses who were in the labor force (87 percent) indicated willingness to train than those who were not in the labor force (73 percent). Of those not in the labor force, more than three-fifths said they would accept a job if one were available for which they were qualified. Practically all (90 percent) of these also indicated willingness to train.

Training for factory operations led in the type of training spouses desired (39 percent). Training for white-collar jobs accounted for nearly a fifth. An additional fifth were undecided. Women who would not train gave family responsibility most frequently as the reason.

Implications

The prospect of success of programs of job training and other types of self-help assistance for younger male heads of poor households is enhanced by their desire to help themselves. Most men were willing to train, change jobs, and even move from the area for better pay. Practically all of their spouses were also willing to train and work. Their relatively young age suggests the feasibility of and economic justification for long-range public investment directed to upgrading their skills.

On the other hand, the extremely low levels of formal schooling, particularly among men, signal the necessity for extensive remedial education. Also, it cannot be assumed that all the men are readily adaptable to change. The outmigration of the 1950's and its probable selection of those with the greatest potential for change cannot be ignored. The men we are discussing are, by and large, those who were left behind.

Raising their incomes above the poverty level through greater productive employment will be doubly difficult for this group because of the large size of family -- an average of 6.6 persons. Limiting the size of family through family planning appears integral to the success of programs of assistance for these households, in particular for those headed by men in the younger age categories of the under-45 grouping.

RURAL HOUSEHOLDS HEADED BY ABLE-BODIED WOMEN UNDER 65 [4]

Income-deprived households headed by able-bodied women under 65 were not numerous in the study area. Their inclusion as a special category in the profile is justified because of the extremely low levels of income, the large number of dependent children among the women under 45, and the doubtful efficacy of self-help programs for improving conditions of this group.

Households With Female Heads Aged 45-64

Households in this category comprised slightly less than 4 percent of the sample. They were about equally divided between white and Negro. About half of the households were classified as poor. By race, however, nearly two-thirds of the Negro households were income-deprived, compared with one-third of the white (table 20).

Typically, females aged 45-64 and heading poor households were widows. Their incomes were extremely low, the majority reporting total family incomes of less than $1,000. Most were employed at wage and salary occupations -- principally farm labor and domestic service. Income from farm wages accounted for nearly half their work income. About half the households had income from retirements and rents, which comprised about a third of their total income. The average income of $1,010 was lower than for any other category of households classified as poor; however, some factors ameliorated their income plight. Families of these middle-aged and older women were small, averaging three persons. About half owned their homes, even though most were rated as either deteriorating or dilapidated. About a third, however, had piped running water, a flush toilet, and a bathtub or shower. About a third owned real estate valued at $5,000 or more. Relatively few had debts of as much as $500.

To sum up, income deprivation is not a serious problem among female household heads aged 45-64 in terms of number of households or number of youth. About a third of the 2 percent of households classified as income-deprived, however, appeared to be in serious need.

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[4] The small number of cases included in this sample reduces the reliability of data on these households. The acute problems of families in this group, however, warrant presentation and analysis, although the data are subject to rather large sampling error.

Households With Female Heads Under 45

Twenty-three of the 28 households headed by women under 45 were classified as poor; 20 of the 23 poor households were Negro. Income-deprived households headed by younger women made up only 2.3 percent of the total sample of poor and nonpoor households combined. But in terms of expanded sample estimates, this would amount to about 1,300 households for the study area. Of even greater social significance is the large number of persons in these households -- an average of seven. These households contained 9 percent (expanded to 8,000) of the deprived rural youth under 20 years of age in the study area.

As a group, these households represent a serious problem of income deprivation. The average household income was $1,200; income per capita was only $170.

Most of these heads (19) were in the labor force, but three were unemployed. Of those working, the majority were farm laborers; most of the remainder were domestic servants. Work of this nature probably enabled them to be near their young children and supervise them. Many probably could not meet the demands of a 40-hour workweek in other kinds of work without day care centers for their children. If it were not for local farm work and domestic service, they might not be in the work force. Despite the large size of these households, only 38 persons in the 23 poor households (an average of 1.7 persons per household) received income in the year preceding the survey. It is probable that the earnings of young children from seasonal farm labor were a supplement to their mothers' income.

Income from agriculture, principally farm wages, accounted for two-thirds of all work income of these deprived households. Work income comprised three-fourths of the total incomes; retirements and compensations 18 percent; and welfare 7 percent. A relatively small proportion of households received welfare (four out of the 23 deprived). The average amount for those reporting such aid was only $567.

The majority of women under 45 and heading deprived households were in the age group 35-44. Widows comprised less than half; the majority were separated or divorced or had never married. Most of their housing was rated deteriorating or dilapidated. Piped running water, an indoor flush toilet, and a bathtub or shower were virtually nonexistant. Only one out of five owned their homes; the majority occupied rent-free housing.

Examination of these households on an individual basis revealed few extentuating circumstances. All had young dependent children. Most had at least four dependent children; half had six or more.

About two-thirds of the women said they would take job training courses. Most of these wanted training in manufacturing operations. About half had completed 5-8 years of school and the remainder less than 5 years. None had had any job training. While most were willing to change jobs for better pay, only one out of three was willing to move 50 miles for this. Their reluctance to move probably reflects their economic reliance on relatives and friends.

Implications

Programs of training, retraining, job placement, and day-care centers for children might enable many of these young women to secure better paying jobs. For others, direct income supplements may be the only feasible means of providing the households with their basic needs. The large size of households, and the fact that most of the women are of childbearing age, implies a special potential for family planning through birth control as an enabling prerequisite to higher incomes.

AN OVERVIEW OF PROBLEMS OF POOR HOUSEHOLDS

Housing

Judged by national standards, the housing occupied by the rural poor of the Northeast Coastal Plain is grossly inadequate. Less than a fourth of the houses had hot and cold running water, a flush toilet, and a bath or shower; two-fifths were classified as dilapidated, having serious structural defects. Overcrowding was also a problem. In a detailed study of housing in the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, Hurst estimated that an expenditure of $78 million would be required to correct the housing deficiencies (2).

Improving rural housing for the poor in the study area will prove difficult. Their extremely low incomes preclude their being able to buy new housing or pay for improvements. Only a third of the poor owned their homes; of the remainder, 70 percent occupied rent-free housing, usually for services associated with farming.

Further, the limited home ownership among the poor was not equally distributed among age groups. Nearly two-fifths of owned housing was occupied by the elderly. The remaining life span of the occupants does not lead to the long-term investments required for housing improvement. Many would probably be reluctant to take on additional financial obligations.

Only a fourth of deprived families headed by able-bodied males under 65 owned their housing. The majority occupied rent-free farm housing. Measures and incentives to improve such farm housing will probably need to differ substantially from those designed to improve rental and owner-occupied housing. Much of this rent-free housing would probably not be available for occupancy were it not for the seasonal need for farm labor -- a need that is projected to decrease drastically with increasing mechanization, particularly of tobacco production.

For many rural communities, substantial public investment to improve existing housing, or to subsidize construction of new housing, would probably not be an economically sound measure because of location. Improved housing for the poor will need to coincide with the growth and location of nonfarm jobs. These jobs are usually concentrated near the larger population centers. Thus, substantial improvement in housing for the rural poor will depend on increased industrial growth, training to upgrade job skills, and relocation of workers. This is a process that will require time -- a factor that may deny benefits to many of the present generation.

Health

The study data did not contain sufficient information on the status of health or health facilities to permit an adequate appraisal of the situation. Based on the most recent visit to a doctor or clinic by heads and spouses of rural households, there was little difference between the poor and the nonpoor. For the elderly and the disabled, whose visits were more frequent, it appears that local health facilities may have been providing at least their minimum needs.

A wide difference existed, however, in the expenditure for medical care between the poor and nonpoor. This was particularly evident among households headed by able-bodied persons. It is possible that local health facilities were providing care to the elderly and disabled irrespective of their ability to pay. Many of these persons reported receiving financial assistance from welfare in paying their medical bills.

The relatively small medical expenditures of the able-bodied poor, however, and the lack of public assistance in paying these bills, raises questions as to the adequacy of preventive care received by their children. Most of the youth in deprived households were in the ones headed by the able-bodied. Data were not obtained on visits to doctors or clinics by family members other than the head and spouse. Judging from the relatively small expenditure by these households, however, it may be surmised that many youth suffered from inadequate preventive medical and dental care.

While county health services are available in the study area, the isolation of the rural poor there may deny them services that are more easily available to people in urban areas. The quality of such services may also be severely curtailed by the overall retardation of industrial growth within the area and the limited tax base with which to provide these services (6).

Employment and Income

The heads of rural poor households in the Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina can be characterized as working poor. All able-bodied male heads were in the labor force. Among the disabled poor, two-thirds of the household heads were employed and income from work comprised three-fifths of their total household income. Even among the elderly poor, a fourth of heads were employed. For the poor as a whole, four-fifths of their total household income was from work sources.

About half of the work income of deprived households was from agriculture -- mostly farm sharecropping and farm labor. As an income source, agricultural work is expected to continue to decline along with increasing mechanization of farm operations, particularly of tobacco production. Further, much of the work is seasonal. Supplementing this income with income from nonfarm employment has numerous obstacles. Foremost is the lack of job alternatives due to both scarcity of jobs in the region and lack of skills among the poor that would enable them to fill jobs that are available. Also, the traditional 40-hour nonfarm workweek imposes restrictions on many whose housing is dependent on their availability for farmwork when needed. The distance to nonfarm jobs, usually located in urban centers, creates problems of commuting to part-time jobs even when such are available. Lack of information about alternative jobs is probably an important barrier also.

Income Deprivation Among Youth

Of all youth under 20 years of age in the study area, two-thirds lived in income-deprived households. The majority of these deprived youth (two-thirds) were dependents of able-bodied working males (fig. 5). As such, they were exempt from most programs of public assistance. There were no households headed by younger able-bodied males (under 45) that received welfare assistance, despite per capita incomes that averaged less than $300 a year.

Reducing the incidence of income deprivation among rural youth must by necessity depart from traditional concepts of welfare which have centered largely on aid to fatherless children, the disabled, and the elderly. Exclusion of households headed by able-bodied males from the provisions of public assistance ignores the bulk of the population living in hard-core poverty. If a major concern of public assistance to the poor is to lessen the impact of income deprivation on youth, revision and innovation of income-transfer programs are drastically needed.

Household Size

The large number of persons per household among the poor aggravates the problem of both sufficient space in housing and adequacy of income. Two-fifths of the population classified as poor lived in a fourth of the households that comprised eight or more persons (3). Most of these were dependent youth. It is doubtful that even the most optimistic goals of income improvement through training and job placement can provide an adequate level of living for these families.

The large size of household is influenced somewhat by extended families in which relatives other than the immediate family also reside. Such families are particularly prevalent among older age groups.

More than half (56 percent) of the deprived children, however, were dependents of able-bodied household heads under 45. These households averaged 4.5 dependent children. The parents of these households are still of childbearing age. It appears obvious that any program to successfully raise income levels of rural residents of the Northeast Coastal Plain must include measures to reduce the birth rate through family planning services.

Training Programs

More than half of all heads of deprived households and three-fifths of their spouses said that they would take special training courses if offered free of charge. Expanded sample estimates of the number who would take training totaled 27,000 -- 14,000 heads and 13,000 spouses. The majority (63 percent of heads and 53 percent of spouses) were able bodied and under 45. Most

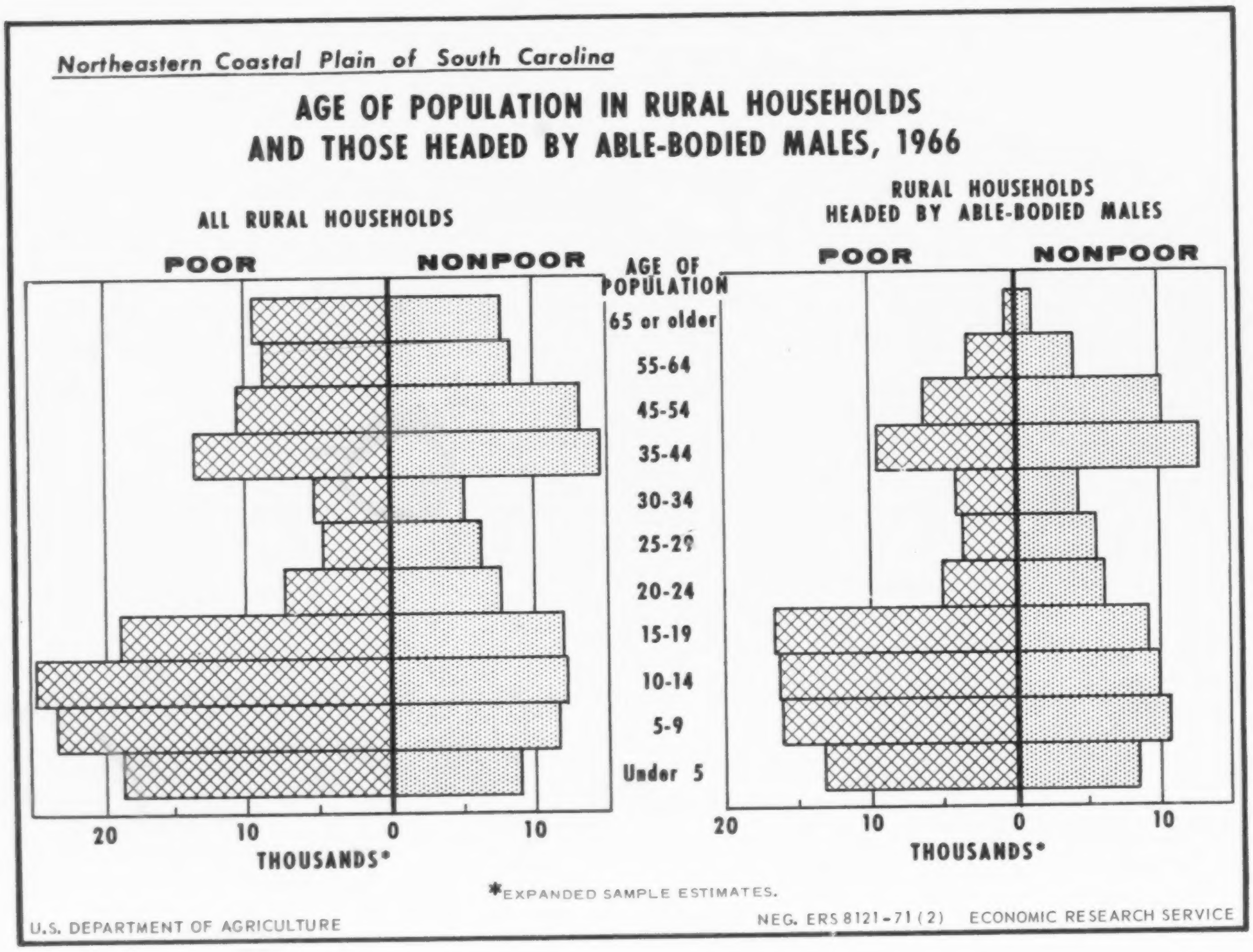

Figure 5

of the remainder were able bodied and aged 45-64. Thus, the composition by age and health appears to hold promise for the success of training programs.

In terms of formal education, a third of those who expressed willingness to train had completed less than 5 years of school -- two-fifths of heads and a fifth of spouses. Only 17 percent of heads and a third of spouses had completed 8 or more years of school. Among those under 45, however, for whom training is more feasible, education levels were somewhat higher. Nearly a fourth of these heads and half of spouses had completed 8 or more years of schooling.

It cannot be assumed that all who said they would train would do so if the opportunity were available. Also, remedial education courses are a probable training prerequisite for many of those in greatest need. The reluctance of many of leave the area to secure a better job places additional constraints on types of jobs available to them. The large number of young adults who would both train and move, however, enhances the prospects for successful self-help programs. Measures to encourage industrial location within the area should obviously be a complementary part of training programs. Family subsistence allowances during training and subsequent job placement will probably be needed to achieve substantial participation of the poor.

Table 5.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with heads aged 65 or older: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All household heads	105	100.0	79	100.0
White	39	37.1	65	82.3
Negro	66	62.9	14	17.7
Household income in 1965:				
Total households	105	100.0	79	100.0
Under $1,000	56	53.3	--	--
$1,000-$1,999	42	40.0	9	11.4
$2,000-$2,999	7	6.7	24	30.4
$3,000-$4,999	--	--	25	31.6
$5,000-$7,499	--	--	10	12.7
$7,500-$9,999	--	--	5	6.3
$10,000 or more	--	--	6	7.6
Marital status of head:				
Total heads	105	100.0	79	100.0
Married	60	57.1	49	62.0
Widowed	37	35.2	25	31.7
Divorced, separated, or never married	8	7.7	5	6.3
Education of head:				
Total heads	104	100.0	79	100.0
Less than 5 years	57	54.8	14	17.7
5-8 years	38	36.5	32	40.5
9-11 years	5	4.8	12	15.2
12 years or more	4	3.9	21	26.6
Illiterates	37	36.6	7	8.9
Education of spouse:				
Total spouses	59	100.0	47	100.0
Less than 5 years	28	47.5	4	8.5
5-8 years	24	40.6	11	23.4
9-11 years	3	5.1	9	19.2
12 years or more	4	6.8	23	48.9
Illiterates	19	32.2	2	2.5
Major occupation of head:				
Total heads	105	100.0	79	100.0
In labor force	24	22.9	31	39.2
White-collar occupations	4	3.8	7	8.9
Blue-collar occupations	--	--	2	2.5
Nonfarm labor or services	1	1.0	1	1.3
Farm operators	15	14.3	20	25.3
Farm laborers	3	2.8	1	1.2
Unemployed	1	1.0	--	--
Not in labor force	81	77.1	48	60.8
Tenure of farm operator:				
Total operators	15	100.0	21	100.0
Full owners	8	53.4	17	80.9

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Table 5.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with heads aged 65 or older: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Part owners	--	--	1	4.8
Cash and share renters	2	13.3	1	4.8
Sharecroppers	5	33.3	2	9.5
Major occupation of spouse:				
Total spouses	59	100.0	47	100.0
In labor force	9	15.2	11	23.4
White-collar occupations	1	1.7	4	8.5
Blue-collar occupations	--	--	2	4.3
Nonfarm labor or services	2	3.4	3	6.4
Farm operators	1	1.7	1	2.1
Farm laborers	4	6.7	1	2.1
Unemployed	1	1.7	--	--
Not in labor force	50	84.8	36	76.6
Disability of head:				
Total heads	105	100.0	78	100.0
Not disabled	33	31.4	38	48.7
Partially disabled	30	28.6	21	26.9
Totally disabled	42	40.0	19	24.4
Disability of spouse:				
Total spouses	59	100.0	47	100.0
Not disabled	33	55.9	34	72.3
Partially disabled	22	37.3	11	23.4
Totally disabled	4	6.8	2	4.3
Nature of head's disability:				
Total heads	72	100.0	39	100.0
Circulatory	38	52.7	15	38.4
Skeletal	12	16.7	4	10.3
Old age	9	12.5	8	20.5
Other	13	18.1	12	30.8
Nature of spouse's disability:				
Total spouses	26	100.0	13	100.0
Circulatory	10	38.4	6	46.1
Skeletal	4	15.4	4	30.8
Old age	4	15.4	--	--
Other	8	30.8	3	23.1
Last visit to doctor or clinic:				
Total heads	104	100.0	79	100.0
Less than 1 month	30	28.8	25	31.6
1-2 months	16	15.4	14	17.7
3-6 months	18	17.3	20	25.3
7-12 months	14	13.5	10	12.7
1 year or more	26	25.0	10	12.7
Total spouses	59	100.0	47	100.0
Less than 1 month	19	32.4	19	40.5

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Table 5.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with heads aged 65 or older: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1-2 months	10	16.9	7	14.9
3-6 months	10	16.9	11	23.4
7-12 months	10	16.9	3	6.4
1 year or more	10	16.9	7	14.9
Housing and facilities:				
Tenure of occupancy --				
Total households	105	100.0	78	100.0
Owns	60	57.1	66	84.6
Rents (including "rent free")	45	42.9	12	15.4
Condition of dwelling --				
Total households	105	100.0	79	100.0
Sound	33	31.4	45	57.0
Deteriorating	36	34.3	22	27.8
Dilapidated	36	34.3	12	15.2
Water supply --				
Total households	105	100.0	79	100.0
Piped running water	45	42.9	71	89.9
Hand pump	50	47.6	8	10.1
Other	10	9.5	--	--
Toilet facility --				
Total households	104	100.0	79	100.0
Indoor flush	37	35.6	68	86.1
Privy	61	58.6	8	10.1
None	6	5.8	3	3.8
Bathtub or shower --				
Total households	105	100.0	79	100.0
Yes	35	33.3	67	15.2
No	70	66.7	12	84.8
Assets and liabilities:				
Value of real estate owned --				
Total households	105	100.0	71	100.0
None	44	41.9	11	15.5
$1-$2,499	18	17.2	4	5.6
$2,500-$4,999	14	13.3	3	4.2
$5,000-$9,999	17	16.2	15	21.1
$10,000 or more	12	11.4	38	53.6
Amount of savings --				
Total households	103	100.0	72	100.0
None	88	85.4	39	54.2
$1-$499	6	5.8	10	13.8
$500-$999	5	4.9	3	4.2
$1,000-$4,999	3	2.9	9	12.5
$5,000 or more	1	1.0	11	15.3

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Table 5.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with heads aged 65 or older: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Amount of life insurance --				
Total households	104	100.0	72	100.0
None	45	43.3	26	36.1
$1-$499	29	27.9	5	6.9
$500-$999	15	14.4	12	16.7
$1,000 or more	15	14.4	29	40.3
Health or hospitalization insurance --				
Total households	94	100.0	65	100.0
Yes	25	26.6	41	63.1
No	69	73.4	24	36.9
Amount of debts --				
Total households	105	100.0	73	100.0
None	57	54.3	48	65.7
$1-$499	32	30.5	5	6.9
$500-$999	8	7.6	3	4.1
$1,000 or more	8	7.6	17	23.3
Medical and dental bills, 1965 --				
Total households	105	100.0	73	100.0
None	6	5.7	6	8.2
$1-$49	42	40.0	14	19.2
$50-$99	15	14.3	14	19.2
$100-$249	20	19.0	14	19.2
$250 or more	22	21.0	25	34.2
Population in households by age groups:				
Total	316	100.0	190	100.0
Less than 5 years of age	16	5.1	3	1.6
5-9 years	22	7.0	6	3.1
10-14 years	30	9.5	7	3.7
15-19 years	26	8.2	14	7.4
20-24 years	12	3.8	3	1.6
25-29 years	13	4.1	2	1.1
30-34 years	6	1.9	5	2.6
35-44 years	12	3.8	8	4.2
45-54 years	15	4.7	12	6.3
55-64 years	24	7.6	17	8.9
65 years or older	140	44.3	113	59.5
Average number	3.0	--	1.4	--
Family composition:				
Total households	105	100.0	79	00.0
With children of head	42	40.0	28	36.7
Without children of head	63	60.0	51	63.3
Subfamily with dependent children	37	35.2	8	10.1
Both parents present	5	4.8	1	1.3
One parent missing	8	7.6	3	3.8
Both parents missing	24	22.8	4	5.0
No subfamily with dependent children	68	64.8	71	89.9

Table 6.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with heads aged 65 or older: Household income by source, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1965

Source of income	Households reporting income source 1/		Household income: Total		Household income: Average 2/
	Number	Percent	1,000 dollars	Percent	Dollars
Households classified poor:					
Households with income 3/	101	100.0	124.4	100.0	1,231
Work income	39	38.6	30.7	24.7	788
Net farm income	17	16.8	14.6	11.8	861
Farm wages	13	12.9	6.7	5.4	515
Nonfarm work	13	12.9	9.4	7.5	722
Nonwork income	99	98.0	93.7	75.3	947
Property 4/	16	15.8	7.5	6.0	465
Retirements 5/	69	68.3	52.4	42.1	760
Compensations 6/	20	19.8	18.9	15.2	945
Welfare	25	24.8	14.9	12.0	595
Old age assistance	20	19.8	11.8	9.5	590
Aid to dependent children	2	2.0	.8	.7	405
Aid to disabled	4	4.0	2.3	1.8	567
Households classified nonpoor:					
Households with income 7/	73	100.0	269.9	100.0	3,698
Work income	37	50.7	117.8	43.6	3,182
Net farm income	21	28.8	58.9	21.8	2,804
Farm wages	2	2.7	5.6	2.0	2,770
Nonfarm work	17	23.3	53.3	19.8	3,165
Nonwork income	66	90.4	152.1	56.4	2,305
Property 4/	34	46.6	66.7	24.7	1,962
Retirements 5/	53	72.6	58.8	21.8	1,110
Compensations 6/	18	24.7	23.1	8.6	1,284
Welfare	6	8.2	3.5	1.3	580
Old age assistance	5	6.8	3.1	1.1	610
Aid to dependent children	--	--	--	--	--
Aid to disabled	1	1.4	.4	.2	432

1/ Detail does not add to total because of households reporting more than one source of income.

2/ Average for households reporting income source.

3/ Excludes households with no income and incomplete data.

4/ Rents, interest, dividends, and royalties.

5/ Social security and Federal, State, and private retirements.

6/ Workmen's unemployment and disability compensations and veteran's compensations, pensions, and other benefits.

7/ Excludes households with total incomes of $10,000 or more.

Table 7.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with heads aged 65 or older: Source of work income by household members, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1965

Item	Unit	Household members with work income			
		Total	Heads	Spouses	Other household members
Households classified poor:					
Household members	Number	50	24	11	15
Amount of work income	1,000 dol.	30.7	15.9	3.3	11.5
Distribution of income by source:					
Total work income	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net farm income	do.	47.7	78.4	9.0	16.4
Income from farm wages	do.	21.8	12.3	42.2	29.0
Income from nonfarm work	do.	30.5	9.3	48.8	54.6
Households classified nonpoor:					
Household members	Number	58	31	12	15
Amount of work income	1,000 dol.	117.7	70.8	15.6	31.3
Distribution of income by source:					
Total work income	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net farm income	do.	50.1	75.1	.8	17.8
Income from farm wages	do.	4.7	1.7	9.6	9.1
Income from nonfarm work	do.	45.2	23.2	89.6	73.1

Table 8.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with disabled heads under 65: Specified characteristics, Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All household heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
White	40	44.0	37	77.1
Negro	51	56.0	11	22.9
Household income in 1965:				
Total households	91	100.0	48	100.0
Under $1,000	31	34.1	--	--
$1,000-$1,999	39	42.8	1	2.1
$2,000-$2,999	16	17.6	8	16.7
$3,000-$4,999	5	5.5	21	43.8
$5,000-$7,499	--	--	9	18.7
$7,500-$9,999	--	--	5	10.4
$10,000 or more	--	--	4	8.3
Age of head:				
Total heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
Less than 45 years	14	15.4	7	14.6
45-49 years	14	15.4	5	10.4
50-54 years	14	15.4	7	14.6
55-59 years	23	25.3	10	20.8
60-64 years	26	28.7	19	39.6
Marital status of head:				
Total heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
Married	59	64.8	42	87.5
Widowed	25	27.5	5	10.4
Divorced, separated, or never married	7	7.7	1	2.1
Education of head:				
Total heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
Less than 5 years	53	58.2	7	14.6
5-8 years	28	30.8	21	43.8
9-11 years	5	5.5	11	22.9
12 years or more	5	5.5	9	18.7
Illiterates	40	44.0	3	6.3
Education of spouse:				
Total spouses	60	100.0	39	100.0
Less than 5 years	23	38.3	4	10.3
5-8 years	25	41.7	8	20.5
9-11 years	6	10.0	10	25.6
12 years or more	6	10.0	17	43.6
Illiterates	18	30.0	3	7.7
Major occupation of head:				
Total heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
In labor force	54	59.3	32	66.7
White-collar occupations	1	1.1	7	14.5
Blue-collar occupations	5	5.5	3	6.3
Nonfarm labor or services	13	14.2	3	6.3

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Table 8.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with disabled heads under 65: Specified characteristics, Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Farm operators	15	16.5	12	25.0
Farm laborers	15	16.5	3	6.3
Unemployed	5	5.5	4	8.3
Not in labor force	37	40.7	16	33.3
Tenure of farm operator 1/:				
Total operators	16	100.0	14	100.0
Full owners	3	18.8	8	57.2
Part owners	1	6.2	3	21.4
Cash and share renters	1	6.2	--	--
Sharecroppers	11	68.8	3	21.4
Major occupation of spouse:				
Total spouses	60	100.0	40	100.0
In labor force	16	26.6	23	57.5
White-collar occupations	--	--	8	20.0
Blue-collar occupations	2	3.3	6	15.0
Nonfarm labor or services	8	13.3	7	17.5
Farm laborers	5	8.3	2	5.0
Unemployed	1	1.7	--	--
Not in labor force	44	73.4	17	42.5
Disability of head:				
Total heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
Partially disabled	58	63.7	33	68.7
Totally disabled	33	36.3	15	31.3
Disability of spouse:				
Total spouses	60	100.0	40	100.0
Not disabled	35	58.3	32	83.2
Partially disabled	21	35.0	8	16.8
Totally disabled	4	6.7	--	--
Nature of head's disability:				
Total heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
Circulatory	30	33.0	22	45.8
Skeletal	28	30.8	14	29.2
Other	33	36.2	12	25.0
Nature of spouse's disability:				
Total spouses	25	100.0	8	100.0
Circulatory	7	28.0	1	12.5
Skeletal	7	28.0	3	37.5
Other	11	44.0	4	50.0
Last visit to doctor or clinic:				
Total heads	91	100.0	48	100.0
Less than 1 month	30	33.0	20	41.7
1-2 months	21	23.1	12	25.0
3-6 months	13	14.2	6	12.5

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Table 8.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with disabled heads under 65: Specified characteristics, Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
7-12 months	18	19.8	5	10.4
1 year or more	9	9.9	5	10.4
Total spouses	59	100.0	40	100.0
Less than 1 month	18	30.5	12	30.0
1-2 months	6	10.2	7	17.5
3-6 months	6	10.2	7	17.5
7-12 months	9	15.2	8	20.0
1 year or more	20	33.9	6	15.0
Housing and facilities:				
Tenure of occupancy --				
Total households	91	100.0	48	100.0
Owns	28	30.8	32	66.7
Rents (including "rent free")	63	69.2	16	33.3
Condition of dwelling --				
Total households	91	100.0	48	100.0
Sound	11	12.0	25	52.1
Deteriorating	40	44.0	13	27.1
Dilapidated	40	44.0	10	20.8
Water supply --				
Total households	91	100.0	48	100.0
Piped running water	39	42.9	40	83.3
Hand pump	47	51.6	8	16.7
Other	5	5.5	--	--
Toilet facility --				
Total households	91	100.0	48	100.0
Indoor flush	23	25.3	36	75.0
Privy	64	70.3	11	22.9
None	4	4.4	1	2.1
Bathtub or shower --				
Total households	91	100.0	48	100.0
Yes	23	25.3	36	75.0
No	68	74.7	12	25.0
Assets and liabilities:				
Value of real estate owned --				
Total households	90	100.0	44	100.0
None	61	67.8	17	38.6
$1-$2,499	9	10.0	2	4.6
$2,500-$4,999	6	6.7	3	6.8
$5,000-$9,999	8	8.9	10	22.7
$10,000 or more	6	6.7	12	27.3
Amount of savings --				
Total households	91	100.0	44	100.0

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Table 8.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with disabled heads under 65: Specified characteristics, Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
None	86	94.5	31	70.4
$1-$499	1	1.1	6	13.6
$500-$999	--	--	3	6.8
$1,000-$4,999	2	3.2	2	4.6
$5,000 or more	2	3.2	2	4.6
Amount of life insurance --				
Total households	90	100.0	44	100.0
None	30	33.3	5	11.4
$1-$499	23	25.6	1	2.2
$500-$999	18	20.0	8	18.2
$1,000 or more	19	21.1	30	68.2
Health or hospitalization insurance --				
Total households	86	100.0	39	100.
Yes	17	19.8	22	56.4
No	69	80.2	17	43.
Amount of debts --				
Total households	91	100.0	44	100.
None	34	37.4	14	31.
$1-$499	36	39.5	9	20.
$500-$999	14	15.4	4	9.
$1,000 or more	7	7.7	17	38.
Medical and dental bills in 1965 --				
Total households	91	100.0	44	100.
None	3	3.3	1	2.
$1-$49	27	29.7	4	9.
$50-$99	14	15.4	3	6.
$100-$249	23	25.3	14	31.
$250 or more	24	26.3	22	50.
Population in households by age groups:				
Total	440	100.0	174	100.
Less than 5 years	45	10.2	3	1.
5-9 years	53	12.1	11	6.
10-14 years	75	17.1	21	12.
15-19 years	70	15.9	24	13.
20-24 years	21	4.8	14	8.
25-29 years	5	1.1	2	1.
30-34 years	5	1.1	6	3.
35-44 years	38	8.6	15	8.
45-54 years	52	11.8	30	17.
55-64 years	63	14.3	47	27.
65 years or older	13	3.0	1	.
Average number	4.8	--	3.6	--
Family composition:				
Total households	91	100.0	48	100.

-- continued

Table 8.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with disabled heads under 65: Specified characteristics, Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
With children of head	62	68.1	33	68.8
Without children of head	29	31.9	15	31.2
Subfamily with dependent children	23	25.3	5	10.4
Both parents present	3	3.3	1	2.1
One parent missing	9	9.9	1	2.1
Both parents missing	11	12.1	3	6.2
No subfamily with dependent children	68	74.7	43	89.6

1/ The number of farm operators exceeds the number who gave farming as their major occupation.

Table 9.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with disabled heads under 65: Household income by source, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1965

Source of income	Households reporting income source 1/		Household income		
			Total		Average 2/
	Number	Percent	1,000 dollars	Percent	Dollars
Households classified poor:					
Households with income 3/	85	100.0	135.8	100.0	1,598
Work income	67	78.8	84.6	62.3	1,263
Net farm income	20	23.5	20.7	15.2	1,037
Farm wages	33	38.8	23.7	17.5	717
Nonfarm work	24	28.2	40.2	29.6	1,675
Nonwork income	61	71.8	51.2	37.7	839
Property 4/	6	7.1	2.7	2.0	450
Retirements 5/	18	21.2	14.9	11.0	829
Compensations 6/	12	14.1	9.0	6.6	749
Welfare	29	34.1	24.6	18.1	848
Old age assistance	6	7.1	4.3	3.2	721
Aid to dependent children	11	12.9	8.4	6.2	767
Aid to disabled	19	22.4	11.9	8.7	623
Households classified nonpoor:					
Households with income 7/	44	100.0	193.2	100.0	4,391
Work income	40	90.0	158.7	82.1	3,943
Net farm income	14	31.8	32.2	16.7	2,298
Farm wages	5	11.4	5.4	2.8	1,080
Nonfarm work	34	77.3	121.1	62.6	3,562
Nonwork income	25	62.5	34.5	17.9	1,380
Property 4/	3	6.8	6.1	3.2	2,033
Retirements 5/	14	31.8	16.8	8.7	1,202
Compensations 6/	9	20.5	8.3	4.3	925
Welfare	5	11.4	3.3	1.7	653
Old age assistance	1	2.3	.8	.4	825
Aid to dependent children	1	2.3	.3	.2	360
Aid to disabled	3	6.8	2.2	1.1	693

1/ Detail does not add to total because of households reporting more than one source of income.

2/ Average for households reporting income source.

3/ Excludes households with no income and incomplete data.

4/ Rents, interest, dividends, and royalties.

5/ Social security and Federal, State, and private retirements.

6/ Workmen's unemployment and disability compensations and veteran's compensations, pensions, and other benefits.

7/ Excludes households with total incomes of $10,000 or more.

Table 10.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with disabled heads under 65: Source of work income by household members, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1965

Item	Unit	Household members with work income			
		Total	Heads	Spouses	Other household members
Households classified poor:					
Household members	Number	107	51	26	30
Amount of work income	1,000 dol.	84.6	47.0	15.1	22.5
Distribution of income by source:					
Total work income	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net farm income	do.	24.5	39.8	--	8.9
Income from farm wages	do.	28.0	16.1	38.9	45.4
Income from nonfarm work	do.	47.5	44.1	61.1	45.7
Households classified nonpoor:					
Household members	Number	70	35	20	15
Amount of work income	1,000 dol.	158.7	75.6	40.6	42.5
Distribution of income by source:					
Total work income	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net farm income	do.	20.3	42.6	--	--
Income from farm wages	do.	3.5	5.8	.5	2.4
Income from nonfarm work	do.	76.2	51.6	99.5	97.6

Table 11.--Rural poor households with disabled heads under 65: Schooling, occupation, and job and geographic mobility of heads and spouses, by willingness to take job training, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966

Item	Household heads		
	Total	Willing to train	Not willing to train
	Number	Number	Number
Total household heads	90	34	56
Years of schooling:			
Less than 5 years	53	23	30
5-8 years	28	7	21
9 years or more	9	4	5
Present occupation:			
Farmers	5	2	3
Sharecroppers	10	7	3
Farm laborers	15	9	6
Nonfarm laborers	5	1	4
Other occupations	14	10	4
Unemployed	6	2	4
Not in labor force	35	3	32
Willing to change jobs for higher pay:			
Yes	31	24	7
No	59	10	49
Willing to move 50 miles for higher pay:			
Yes	21	18	3
No	69	16	53
Willing to move 200 miles for higher pay:			
Yes	6	5	1
No	84	29	55
Heads willing to train	34	34	--
Type of training desired:			
Crafts	--	12	--
Operations	--	1	--
Nonfarm labor and services	--	6	--
Other	--	7	--
Undecided	--	8	--
Heads not willing to train	56	--	56
Reason would not train:			
Age	--	--	10
Health	--	--	39
Other	--	--	7
Total spouses	58	27	31
Years of schooling:			
Less than 5 years	23	11	12
5-8 years	24	12	12
9 years or more	11	4	7

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Table 11.--Rural poor households with disabled heads under 65: Schooling, occupation, and job and geographic mobility of heads and spouses, by willingness to take job training, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Household heads		
	Total	Willing to train	Not willing to train
	Number	Number	Number
Present occupation:			
Private household	8	5	3
Farm labor	5	4	1
Other nonfarm	2	--	2
Unemployed	2	2	--
Not in labor force	41	16	25
Would accept job:			
Yes	16	14	2
No	25	2	23
Spouses willing to train	27	27	--
Type of training desired:			
Professional and technical	--	5	--
Operatives	--	7	--
Services	--	8	--
Other	--	1	--
Undecided	--	6	--
Spouses not willing to train	31	--	31
Reason would not train:			
Age	--	--	6
Health	--	--	10
Family responsibility	--	--	8
Other	--	--	6
Reason not reported	--	--	1

Table 12.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All household heads	92	100.0	148	100.0
White	19	20.7	119	80.4
Negro	73	79.3	29	19.6
Household income in 1965:				
Total households	92	100.0	148	100.0
Less than $1,000	22	23.9	--	--
$1,000-$1,999	43	46.8	--	--
$2,000-$2,999	20	21.7	23	15.5
$3,000-$4,999	7	7.6	34	23.0
$5,000-$7,499	--	--	37	25.0
$7,500-$9,999	--	--	19	12.8
$10,000 or more	--	--	35	23.7
Age of head:				
Total heads	92	100.0	148	100.0
45-49 years	36	39.1	58	39.2
50-54 years	23	25.0	42	28.4
55-59 years	23	25.0	29	19.6
60-64 years	10	10.9	19	12.8
Marital status of head:				
Total heads	92	100.0	149	100.0
Married	84	91.3	135	91.2
Widowed	3	3.3	3	2.0
Divorced, separated, or never married	5	5.4	10	6.8
Education of head:				
Total heads	92	100.0	148	100.0
Less than 5 years	42	45.6	25	16.9
5-8 years	40	43.5	48	32.4
9-11 years	7	7.6	32	21.6
12 years or more	3	3.3	43	29.1
Illiterates	29	31.5	3	2.0
Education of spouse:				
Total spouses	83	100.0	137	100.0
Less than 5 years	22	26.5	6	4.4
5-8 years	42	50.6	38	27.7
9-11 years	14	16.9	40	29.2
12 years or more	5	6.0	53	38.7
Illiterates	14	16.8	--	--
Major occupation of head:				
Total heads	92	100.0	148	100.0
In labor force	92	100.0	148	100.0
White-collar occupations	2	2.3	31	20.9
Blue-collar occupations	6	6.5	33	22.3
Nonfarm labor or services	16	17.4	21	14.2
Farm operators	46	49.9	59	39.9

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Table 12.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Farm laborers	21	22.8	3	2.0
Unemployed	1	1.1	1	.7
Not in labor force	--	--	--	--
Tenure of farm operator 1/:				
Total farm operators	48	100.0	73	100.0
Full owners	12	25.0	45	61.6
Part owners	1	2.1	14	19.2
Cash or share renters	4	8.3	3	4.1
Sharecroppers	31	64.6	11	15.1
Major occupation of spouse:				
Total spouses	83	100.0	137	100.0
In labor force	29	34.9	55	40.2
White-collar occupations	1	1.2	25	18.3
Blue-collar occupations	--	--	12	8.8
Nonfarm labor or services	11	13.3	14	10.2
Domestic service	8	9.6	6	4.4
Farm laborers	9	10.8	--	--
Unemployed	8	9.6	4	2.9
Not in labor force	54	65.1	82	59.8
Sickness or accident in last 12 months:				
Total heads	92	100.0	148	100.0
Yes	8	8.7	13	8.8
No	84	91.3	135	91.2
Total spouses	83	100.0	137	100.0
Yes	7	8.4	15	10.9
No	76	91.6	122	89.1
Last visit to doctor or clinic:				
Total heads	92	100.0	148	100.0
Less than 3 months	10	10.9	29	19.6
3-6 months	14	15.2	21	14.2
7-12 months	19	20.7	31	20.9
1-2 years	13	14.1	26	17.6
2 years or more	36	39.1	41	27.7
Total spouses	83	100.0	137	100.0
Less than 1 month	11	13.3	16	11.7
1-2 months	7	8.4	15	10.9
3-6 months	22	26.5	40	29.2
7-12 months	19	22.9	33	24.1
1 year or more	24	28.9	33	24.1
Housing and facilities:				
Total households	92	100.0	148	100.0
Tenure of occupancy --				

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Table 12.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Owns	31	33.7	118	79.7
Rents (including "rent free")	61	66.3	30	20.3
Condition of dwelling --				
Sound	20	21.7	98	66.2
Deteriorating	30	32.6	31	21.0
Dilapidated	42	45.7	19	12.8
Water supply --				
Piped running water	35	38.0	120	81.1
Hand pump	48	52.2	20	13.5
Other	9	9.8	8	5.4
Toilet facility --				
Indoor flush	20	21.7	110	75.3
Privy	65	70.7	35	24.0
None	7	7.6	1	.7
Bathtub or shower --				
Yes	20	21.7	108	73.0
No	72	78.3	40	27.0
Assets and liabilities:				
Value of real estate owned --				
Total households	92	100.0	113	100.0
None	58	63.0	25	22.1
$1-$2,499	11	12.0	7	6.2
$2,500-$4,999	9	9.8	6	5.3
$5,000-$9,999	8	8.7	28	24.8
$10,000 or more	6	6.5	47	41.6
Amount of savings --				
Total households	91	100.0	112	100.0
None	84	92.3	75	67.0
$1-$499	5	5.5	10	8.9
$500-$999	2	2.2	10	8.9
$1,000-$4,999	--	--	13	11.6
$5,000 or more	--	--	4	3.6
Amount of life insurance --				
Total households	92	100.0	113	100.0
None	21	22.8	14	12.4
$1-$499	20	21.7	6	5.3
$500-$999	24	26.1	22	19.5
$1,000 or more	27	29.4	71	62.8
Health or hospitalization insurance --				
Total households	82	100.0	95	100.0
Yes	20	24.4	57	60.0
No	62	75.6	38	40.0

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Table 12.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Amount of debts --				
Total households	91	100.0	112	100.0
None	24	26.4	37	33.0
$1-$499	25	27.4	21	18.8
$500-$999	18	19.8	7	6.2
$1,000 or more	24	26.4	47	42.0
Medical and dental bills, 1965 --				
Total households	92	100.0	113	100.0
None	9	9.8	3	2.7
$1-$49	41	44.6	41	36.3
$50-$99	14	15.2	24	21.2
$100-$249	15	16.3	21	18.6
$250 or more	13	14.1	24	21.2
Population in households by age groups:				
Total	511	100.0	529	100.0
Less than 5 years	38	7.4	9	1.7
5-9 years	62	12.1	41	7.7
10-14 years	96	18.8	58	11.0
15-19 years	87	17.0	80	15.1
20-24 years	31	6.1	29	5.5
25-29 years	4	.8	13	2.4
30-34 years	6	1.2	7	1.3
35-44 years	33	6.4	50	9.5
45-54 years	100	19.6	161	30.5
55-64 years	51	10.0	71	13.4
65 years or older	3	.6	10	1.9
Average number	5.6	--	3.6	--
Family composition:				
Total households	92	100.0	148	100.0
With children of head	71	77.2	102	68.9
Without children of head	21	22.8	46	31.1
Subfamily with dependent children	22	23.9	11	7.5
Both parents present	2	2.2	2	1.4
One parent missing	5	5.4	1	.7
Both parents missing	15	16.3	8	5.4
No subfamily with dependent children	70	76.1	137	92.5

1/ The number of farm operators exceeds the number who gave their major occupation as farming.

Table 13.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64: Household income by source, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1965

Source of income	Households reporting income source 1/		Household income		
			Total		Average 2/
	Number	Percent	1,000 dollars	Percent	Dollars
Households classified poor:					
Households with income 3/	90	100.0	166.0	100.0	1,843
Work income	90	100.0	158.8	95.7	1,764
Net farm income	47	52.2	62.1	37.4	1,321
Farm wages	32	35.6	27.8	16.8	869
Nonfarm work	29	32.2	68.9	41.5	2,376
Nonwork income	6	6.7	7.2	4.3	985
Property 4/	1	1.1	.1	.1	54
Retirements 5/	5	5.6	4.5	2.7	898
Compensations 6/	1	1.1	1.4	.8	1,368
Welfare	2	2.2	1.2	.7	606
Households classified nonpoor:					
Households with income 7/	113	100.0	577.4	100.0	5,110
Work income	113	100.0	569.7	98.7	5,042
Net farm income	52	46.0	158.7	27.5	3,052
Farm wages	5	4.4	6.0	1.0	1,195
Nonfarm work	92	81.4	405.0	70.2	4,402
Nonwork income	9	8.0	7.7	1.3	851
Property 4/	7	6.2	4.1	.7	592
Retirements 5/	2	1.8	3.2	.5	1,575
Compensations 6/	1	.9	.4	.1	360
Welfare	--	--	--	--	--

1/ Detail does not add to total because of households reporting more than one source of income.

2/ Average for households reporting income source.

3/ Excludes households with no income and incomplete data.

4/ Rents, interest, dividends, and royalties.

5/ Social security and Federal, State, and private retirements.

6/ Workmen's unemployment and disability compensations and veteran's compensations, pensions, and other benefits.

7/ Excludes households with total incomes of $10,000 or more.

Table 14.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64: Source of work income by household members, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1965

Item	Unit	Household members with work income			
		Total	Heads	Spouses	Other household members
Households classified poor:					
Household members	Number	136	90	20	26
Amount of work income	1,000 dol.	158.8	127.9	8.4	22.5
Distribution of income by source:					
Total work income	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net farm income	do.	39.1	48.6	--	--
Income from farm wages	do.	17.5	15.4	27.0	25.7
Income from nonfarm work	do.	43.4	36.0	73.0	74.3
Households classified nonpoor:					
Household members	Number	185	113	38	34
Amount of income	1,000 dol.	569.7	451.2	76.8	41.7
Distribution of income by source:					
Total work income	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net farm income	do.	27.9	33.6	--	--
Income from farm wages	do.	1.0	1.1	--	16.5
Income from nonfarm work	do.	71.1	65.3	100.0	83.5

Table 15.--Rural poor households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64: Schooling, occupation, and job and geographic mobility of heads and spouses, by willingness to take job training, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966

Item	Household heads		
	Total	Willing to train	Not willing to train
	Number	Number	Number
Total household heads	88	53	35
Years of schooling:			
Less than 5 years	41	23	18
5-8 years	39	24	15
9 years or more	8	6	2
Present occupation:			
Farmers	15	8	7
Sharecroppers	30	17	13
Farm laborers	21	12	9
Nonfarm laborers	10	8	2
Other nonfarm occupations	12	8	4
Willing to change jobs for higher pay:			
Yes	61	43	18
No	27	10	17
Willing to move 50 miles for higher pay:			
Yes	38	31	7
No	50	22	28
Willing to move 200 miles for higher pay:			
Yes	20	19	1
No	68	34	34
Heads willing to train	53	53	--
Type of training desired:			
Crafts	--	30	
Operations	--	8	--
Nonfarm labor and services	--	4	--
Other	--	6	--
Undecided	--	5	--
Heads not willing to train	35	--	35
Reason would not train:			
Age or health	--	--	13
Satisfied with present job	--	--	12
Educational deficiency	--	--	5
Other reasons	--	--	4
Not reported	--	--	1
Total spouses	81	59	22
Years of schooling:			
Less than 5 years	22	13	9
5-8 years	41	33	8
9 years or more	18	13	5

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Table 15.--Rural poor households with able-bodied male heads aged 45-64: Schooling, occupation, and job and geographic mobility of heads and spouses, by willingness to take job training, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Household heads		
	Total	Willing to train	Not willing to train
	Number	Number	Number
Present occupation:			
Private household	8	5	3
Farm labor	9	7	2
Other nonfarm	3	3	--
Unemployed	8	8	--
Not in labor force	53	36	17
Would accept job:			
Yes	36	29	7
No	17	7	10
Spouses willing to train	59	59	--
Type of training desired:			
Professional and technical	--	8	--
Operatives	--	17	--
Services	--	12	--
Other	--	13	--
Undecided	--	9	--
Spouses not willing to train	22	--	22
Reason would not train:			
Age or health	--	--	8
Child care	--	--	4
Satisfied with present	--	--	4
Other	--	--	6

Table 16.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads under 45: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All household heads	159	100.0	216	100.0
White	26	16.4	181	83.7
Negro	133	83.6	35	16.3
Household income in 1965:				
Total households	159	100.0	216	100.0
Less than $1,000	38	23.9	--	--
$1,000-$1,999	49	30.8	--	--
$2,000-$2,999	59	37.1	12	5.6
$3,000-$4,999	13	8.2	68	31.5
$5,000-$7,499	--	--	80	37.0
$7,500-$9,999	--	--	32	14.8
$10,000 or more	--	--	24	11.1
Age of head:				
Total heads	159	100.0	216	100.0
Less than 25 years	22	13.8	26	12.0
25-29 years	24	15.1	51	23.6
30-34 years	31	19.5	27	12.5
35-39 years	39	24.5	53	24.6
40-44 years	43	27.1	59	27.3
Marital status of head:				
Total heads	159	100.0	216	100.0
Married	153	96.2	211	97.6
Not married	6	3.8	5	2.4
Education of head:				
Total heads	159	100.0	216	100.0
Less than 5 years	62	39.0	13	6.0
5-8 years	61	38.4	55	25.5
9-11 years	27	17.0	51	23.6
12 years or more	9	5.6	97	44.9
Illiterates	45	28.3	3	1.4
Education of spouse:				
Total spouses	156	100.0	212	100.0
Less than 5 years	23	14.7	4	1.9
5-8 years	65	41.8	32	15.1
9-11 years	45	28.8	47	22.2
12 years or more	23	14.7	129	60.8
Illiterates	13	8.3	--	--
Major occupation of head:				
Total heads	159	100.0	216	100.0
In labor force	159	100.0	215	99.5
White-collar occupations	1	.6	56	25.9
Blue-collar occupations	25	15.7	86	39.8
Nonfarm labor or services	38	23.9	34	15.8
Farm operators	58	36.5	37	17.1

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Table 16.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads under 45: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Farm laborers	35	22.0	2	.9
Unemployed	2	1.3	--	--
Not in labor force	--	--	1	.5
Tenure of farm operator 1/:				
Total operators	63	100.0	54	100.0
Full owners	9	14.3	23	42.6
Part owners	2	3.2	15	27.8
Cash or share renters	7	11.1	6	11.1
Sharecroppers	45	71.4	10	18.5
Major occupation of spouse:				
Total spouses	156	100.0	212	100.0
In labor force	58	37.1	120	56.6
White-collar occupations	1	.6	40	18.9
Blue-collar occupations	4	2.6	39	18.4
Nonfarm labor or service	13	8.3	28	13.2
Domestic service	10	6.4	4	1.9
Farm laborer	15	9.6	--	--
Unemployed	25	16.0	13	6.1
Not in labor force	98	62.9	92	43.4
Sickness or accident in last 12 months:				
Total heads	159	100.0	216	100.0
Yes	13	8.2	27	12.5
No	146	91.8	189	87.5
Total spouses	156	100.0	212	100.0
Yes	23	14.5	27	12.7
No	133	85.5	185	87.3
Last visit to doctor or clinic:				
Total heads	159	100.0	216	100.0
Less than 3 months	29	18.2	46	21.3
2-6 months	20	12.6	42	19.4
7-12 months	26	16.4	48	22.2
1-2 years	27	17.0	30	13.9
2 years or more	57	35.8	50	23.2
Total spouses	156	100.0	212	100.0
Less than 1 month	35	22.5	49	23.1
1-2 months	18	11.5	24	11.3
3-6 months	29	18.6	51	24.1
7-12 months	30	19.2	35	16.5
1 year or more	44	28.2	53	25.0
Housing and facilities:				
Total households	159	100.0	216	100.0
Tenure of occupancy --				

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Table 16.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads under 45: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Owns	31	19.5	142	65.7
Rents (including "rent free")	128	80.5	74	34.3
Condition of dwelling --				
Sound	29	18.2	142	65.7
Deteriorating	67	42.2	52	24.1
Dilapidated	63	39.6	22	10.2
Water supply --				
Piped running water	42	26.4	190	88.0
Hand pump	104	65.4	23	10.6
Other	13	8.2	3	1.4
Toilet facility --				
Indoor flush	31	19.5	175	81.0
Privy	116	73.0	37	17.1
None	12	7.5	4	1.9
Bathtub or shower --				
Yes	27	17.0	172	79.6
No	132	83.0	44	20.4
Assets and liabilities:				
Value of real estate owned --				
Total households	158	100.0	190	100.0
None	126	79.7	62	32.6
$1-$2,499	6	3.8	8	4.2
$2,500-$4,999	7	4.4	15	7.9
$5,000-$9,999	14	8.9	35	18.4
$10,000 or more	5	3.2	70	36.9
Amount of savings --				
Total households	158	100.0	185	100.0
None	148	93.7	115	62.2
$1-$499	8	5.1	37	20.0
$500-$999	--	--	11	5.9
$1,000-$4,999	1	.6	17	9.2
$5,000 or more	1	.6	5	2.7
Amount of life insurance --				
Total households	157	100.0	190	100.0
None	53	33.8	18	9.5
$1-$499	20	12.7	4	2.1
$500-$999	28	17.8	21	11.0
$1,000 or more	56	35.7	147	77.4
Health or hospitalization insurance --				
Total households	140	100.0	155	100.0
Yes	95	67.9	116	74.8
No	45	32.1	39	25.2

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Table 16.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads under 45: Specified characteristics, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Poor		Nonpoor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Amount of debts --				
Total households	158	100.0	188	100.0
None	26	16.4	28	14.9
$1-$499	68	43.1	23	12.2
$500-$999	28	17.7	37	19.7
$1,000 or more	36	22.8	100	53.2
Medical and dental bills, 1965 --				
Total households	158	100.0	190	100.0
None	16	10.1	11	5.8
$1-$49	53	33.6	37	19.5
$50-$99	35	22.2	30	15.8
$100-$249	29	18.3	46	24.2
$250 or more	25	15.8	66	34.7
Population in households by age groups:				
Total	1,044	100.0	928	100.0
Less than 5 years	194	18.5	143	15.4
5-9 years	218	20.9	145	15.6
10-14 years	188	17.9	118	12.7
15-19 years	106	10.2	81	8.7
20-24 years	56	5.4	78	8.4
25-29 years	57	5.5	90	9.7
30-34 years	65	6.2	70	7.5
35-44 years	136	13.0	175	19.0
45-54 years	11	1.1	14	1.5
55-64 years	6	.6	2	.2
65 years or older	7	.7	12	1.3
Average number	6.6	--	4.3	--
Family composition:				
Total households	159	100.0	216	100.0
With children of head	149	93.7	185	85.7
Without children of head	10	6.3	31	14.3
Subfamily with dependent children	13	8.2	4	1.9
No subfamily with dependent children	146	91.8	212	98.1

1/ The number of farm operators exceeds the number who gave their major occupation as farming.

Table 17.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads under 45: Household income by source, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966

Source of income	Households reporting income source 1/		Household income		
			Total		Average 2/
	Number	Percent	1,000 dollars	Percent	Dollars
Households classified poor:					
Households with income 3/	159	100.0	299.4	100.0	1,883
Work income	159	100.0	296.3	99.0	1,864
Net farm income	64	40.3	85.3	28.6	1,333
Farm wages	57	35.9	49.9	16.5	875
Nonfarm work	82	51.6	161.1	53.8	1,964
Nonwork income	7	4.4	3.1	1.0	441
Property 4/	--	--	--	--	--
Retirements 5/	2	1.3	1.4	.5	720
Compensations 6/	1	.6	.1	7/	120
Welfare	4	2.5	1.6	.5	382
Households classified nonpoor:					
Households with income 8/	189	100.0	1,049.2	100.0	5,551
Work income	188	99.5	1,036.4	98.8	5,513
Net farm income	38	20.1	120.5	11.5	3,171
Farm wages	2	1.0	1.9	.2	962
Nonfarm work	177	93.7	914.0	87.1	5,164
Nonwork income	19	10.1	12.8	1.2	674
Property 4/	9	4.8	6.4	.6	707
Retirements 5/	5	2.6	2.4	.2	482
Compensations 6/	6	3.2	4.0	.4	671
Welfare	--	--	--	--	--

1/ Detail does not add to total because of houeholds reporting more than one source of income.

2/ Average for households reporting income source.

3/ Excludes households with no income and incomplete data.

4/ Rents, interest, dividends, and royalties.

5/ Social security and Federal, State, and private retirements.

6/ Workmen's unemployment and disability compensations and veteran's compensations, pensions, and other benefits.

7/ Less than 0.05 percent.

8/ Excludes households with total incomes of $10,000 or more.

Table 18.--Rural poor and nonpoor households with able-bodied male heads under 45: Source of work income by household members, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1965

Item	Unit	Household members with work income			
		Total	Heads	Spouses	Other household members
Households classified poor:					
Household members	Number	239	159	54	26
Amount of work income	1,000 dol.	296.3	253.4	28.7	14.2
Distribution of income by source:					
Total work income	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net farm income	do.	28.8	32.4	--	23.5
Income from farm wages	do.	16.8	13.6	20.0	68.3
Income from nonfarm work	do.	54.4	54.0	80.0	8.2
Households classified nonpoor:					
Household members	Number	322	212	100	10
Amount of income	1,000 dol.	1,036.4	804.6	212.3	19.5
Distribution of income by source:					
Total work income	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net farm income	do.	11.6	14.9	.3	--
Income from farm wages	do.	.2	.2	.3	--
Income from nonfarm work	do.	88.2	84.9	99.4	100.0

Table 19.--Rural poor households with able-bodied male heads under 45: Schooling, occupation, and job and geographic mobility of heads and spouses, by willingness to take job training, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966

Item	Household heads		
	Total	Willing to train	Not willing to train
	Number	Number	Number
Total household heads	152	128	24
Years of schooling:			
Less than 5 years	57	46	11
5-8 years	61	53	8
9 years or more	34	29	5
Present occupation:			
Farmers	17	10	7
Farm sharecroppers	40	34	6
Farm laborers	32	29	3
Nonfarm laborers	33	28	5
Other nonfarm occupations	28	26	2
Unemployed	2	1	1
Willing to change jobs for higher pay:			
Yes	132	118	14
No	20	10	10
Willing to move 50 miles for higher pay:			
Yes	91	84	7
No	61	44	17
Willing to move 200 miles for higher pay:			
Yes	54	49	5
No	98	79	19
Heads willing to train	128	128	--
Type of training desired:			
Crafts	--	82	--
Operations	--	14	--
Nonfarm labor and services	--	5	--
Other	--	4	--
Undecided	--	23	--
Heads not willing to train	24	--	24
Reason would not train:			
Satisfied with present job	--	--	15
Too busy	--	--	5
Other	--	--	4
Total spouses	146	114	32
Years of schooling:			
Less than 5 years	23	17	6
5-8 years	62	44	18
9 years or more	61	53	8

-- continued

Table 19.--Rural poor households with able-bodied male heads under 45: Schooling, occupation, and job and geographic mobility of heads and spouses, by willingness to take job training, Coastal Plain of Northeastern South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Household heads		
	Total	Willing to train	Not willing to train
	Number	Number	Number
Present occupation:			
Private household	10	8	2
Farm labor	15	10	5
Other nonfarm	7	7	--
Unemployed	20	20	--
Not in labor force	94	69	25
Would accept job:			
Yes	59	53	6
No	35	16	19
Spouses willing to train	114	114	--
Type of training desired:			
Professional and technical	--	9	--
Clerical	--	12	--
Operatives	--	44	--
Domestic service	--	9	--
Other services	--	12	--
Other occupations	--	7	--
Undecided	--	21	--
Spouses not willing to train	32	--	32
Reason would not train:			
Family responsibility	--	--	15
Too busy	--	--	6
Satisfied with present	--	--	5
Health	--	--	3
Other	--	--	1
Reason not reported	--	--	2

Table 20.--Rural poor households with able-bodied female heads under 65: Specified characteristics by age of head, Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966

Item	Total	Under 45 years of age	45-64 years of age
	Number	Number	Number
All household heads	40	23	17
White	8	3	5
Negro	32	20	12
Household income in 1965:			
Less than $1,000	19	9	10
$1,000-$1,999	17	11	6
$2,000-$2,999	3	2	1
$3,000-$4,999	1	1	--
Age of head:			
Less than 25	2	2	--
25-34	7	7	--
35-44	14	14	--
45-54	9	--	9
55-64	8	--	8
Marital status of head:			
Widowed	22	10	12
Divorced, separated or never married	18	13	5
Education of head:			
Less than 5 years	9	3	6
5-8 years	25	16	9
9-11 years	5	4	1
12 years or more	1	--	1
Illiterates	6	3	3
Major occupation of head:			
In labor force	32	19	13
White-collar	1	1	--
Blue-collar	--	--	--
Nonfarm labor or service	8	4	4
Farm sharecropper	2	1	1
Farm labor	16	10	6
Unemployed	5	3	2
Not in labor force	8	4	4
Sickness or accident in last 12 months:			
Yes	6	3	3
No	34	20	14
Last visit to doctor or clinic:			
Less than 3 months	8	3	5
3-6 months	7	6	1
7-12 months	11	4	7
1-2 years	7	4	3
2 years or more	7	6	1

-- continued

Table 20--Rural poor households with able-bodied female heads under 65: Specified characteristics by age of head, Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Total	Under 45 years of age	45-64 years of age
	Number	Number	Number
Housing and facilities:			
Tenure of occupancy --			
Owns	13	5	8
Rents	27	18	9
Rent free	14	9	5
Cash rent	13	9	4
Condition of dwelling --			
Sound	6	4	2
Deteriorating	15	10	5
Dilapidated	19	9	10
Water supply --			
Piped running water	8	2	6
Hand pump	31	20	11
Other	1	1	--
Toilet facility --			
Indoor flush	7	1	6
Privy	28	18	10
None	5	4	1
Bathtub or shower --			
Yes	7	1	6
No	33	22	11
Assets and liabilities:			
Value of real estate owned --			
None	26	17	9
$1-$2,499	5	2	3
$2,500-$4,999	3	3	--
$5,000-$9,999	4	1	3
$10,000 or more	2	--	2
Amount of savings --			
None	36	23	13
$1-$499	1	--	1
$500-$999	--	--	--
$1,000-$4,999	3	--	3
$5,000 or more	--	--	--
Amount of life insurance --			
None	15	10	5
$1-$499	9	5	4
$500-$999	9	6	3
$1,000 or more	7	2	5
Health or hospitalization insurance 1/ --			
Yes	11	4	7
No	27	18	9

-- continued

Table 20.--Rural poor households with able-bodied female heads under 65: Specified characteristics by age of head, Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina, 1966 -- continued

Item	Total	Under 45 Years of age	45-64 years of age
	Number	Number	Number
Amount of debts --			
None	13	6	7
$1-$499	23	15	8
$500-$999	3	1	2
$1,000 or more	1	1	--
Medical and dental bills, 1965 --			
None	7	6	1
$1-$49	17	7	10
$50-$99	9	5	4
$100-$249	7	5	2
$250 or more	--	--	--
Population in households by age groups	213	162	51
Less than 5 years	33	30	3
5-9 years	47	38	9
10-14 years	40	33	7
15-19 years	39	32	7
20-24 years	8	4	4
25-29 years	3	1	2
30-34 years	8	7	1
35-44 years	15	15	--
45-54 years	9	--	9
55-64 years	8	--	8
65 years or older	3	2	1
Average number	--	7.0	3.0
Family composition:			
With children of head	34	23	11
Without children of head	6	--	6
Subfamily with dependent children	10	6	5
No subfamily with dependent children	30	18	12

1/ Data were not obtained for 1 female household head in each age category.

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APPENDIX

MEASURES OF SAMPLING VARIABILITY

The data are based on a 1.733-percent sample of all rural households in the Northeastern Coastal Plain of South Carolina and are subject to sampling variability. This variability can be estimated from the following table:

Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages

Estimated percentage	Base of percentage (number)								
	25	50	75	100	150	200	300	500	1,000
	-- Percent --								
2 or 98	2.8	2.0	1.6	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.4
5 or 95	4.4	3.1	2.5	2.2	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.0	0.7
10 or 90	6.0	4.2	3.5	3.0	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.3	0.9
15 or 85	7.1	5.0	4.1	3.6	2.9	2.5	2.1	1.6	1.1
20 or 80	8.0	5.7	4.6	4.0	3.3	2.8	2.3	1.8	1.3
25 or 75	8.7	6.1	5.0	4.3	3.5	3.1	2.5	1.9	1.4
35 or 65	9.6	6.7	5.5	4.8	3.9	3.4	2.8	2.1	1.5
50	10.0	7.1	5.8	5.0	4.1	3.5	2.9	2.2	1.6

Chances are about two out of three that the difference due to sampling variability between a sample estimate and the figure that would have been obtained by interviews with all households is less than the standard error. The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the difference is less than twice the standard error and 99 out of 100 that it is less than 2-1/2 times the standard error.

The standard errors are relatively large for percentages based on small numbers. Also, the standard errors are proportionally larger for small percentages than for large ones.

When two sample percentages are compared -- for example, the percentages for two separate groups completing a given grade of school -- the standard errors are somewhat larger than those shown in the table. The standard error of the difference between two percentages is approximately the square root of the sum of the squared standard errors of the two estimated percentages considered separately. If the standard error as computed is greater than the difference between the percentages, it is doubtful that a meaningful difference exists, for the probability is approximately one out of three that a difference equal to the standard error could occur due to chance.

For base numbers and estimated percentages falling between those given in the table of the standard errors, linear interpolation will provide results that are satisfactory for most purposes. Formulas for computing the standard errors and for computing more appropriate odds can be found in most statistical textbooks.